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11

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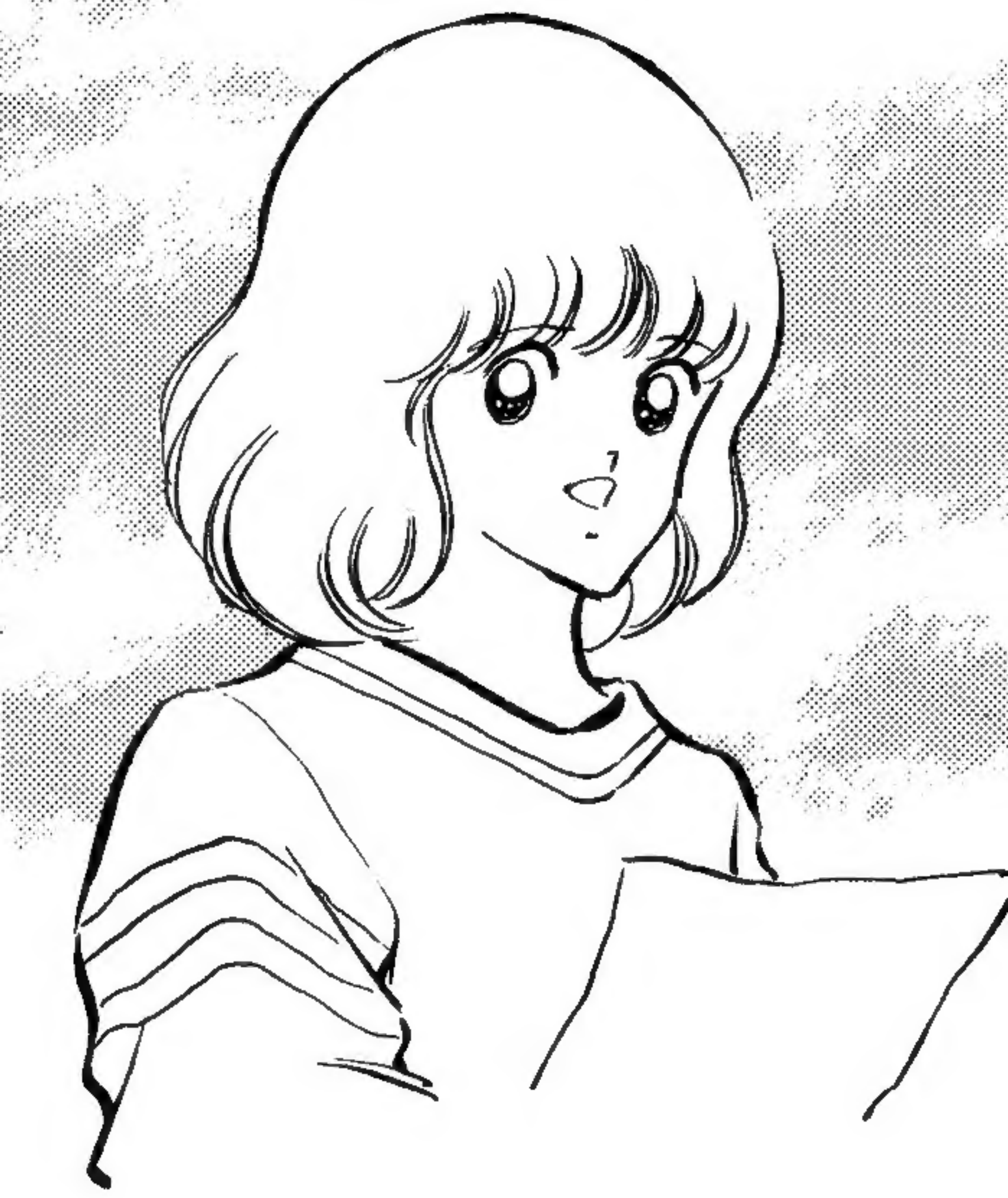
The Extraordinary Pitching Duel



SCOREBOARD: <MEISEI, SEINAN>

SFX: <WAH>

明青	0	0
勢南	0	

FIVE STRIKE-OUTS IN 2 INNINGS ...

AFTER THE GAME, THERE'LL BE A DIFFERENT NUMBER ONE PITCHER.

THAT WAS THE TALK BE-FORE THE GAME...

SEINAN'S NISHIMURA ISAMI...

HE SURE IS THE TOUR-NAMENT'S NUMBER ONE PITCHER, HM?

SCORE

DON'T THROW ANY HIGH AND FAST PITCHES TO NISHI-MURA!!

LISTEN UP, UESU-GI...

I SHOULD ATTACK HIM WITH LOW PITCHES, SHOULDN'T I?

I KNOW, I KNOW.

THAT GUY'S DAMN GOOD WITH THE HIGH PITCH.

.....

YOU KNOW MY CONTROL'S GOOD, RIGHT?

LEAVE IT TO ME.

YEP.

THAT'S TRUE, HM.

AH... THAT'S RIGHT.

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CROWD: <CRUSH IT, CRUSH IT, NISHIMURA!>

BATTING 4TH, THE PITCHER NISHIMURA-KUN!

にしむらー

がっせ

がっせ

SFX: <WHAM>

OH.

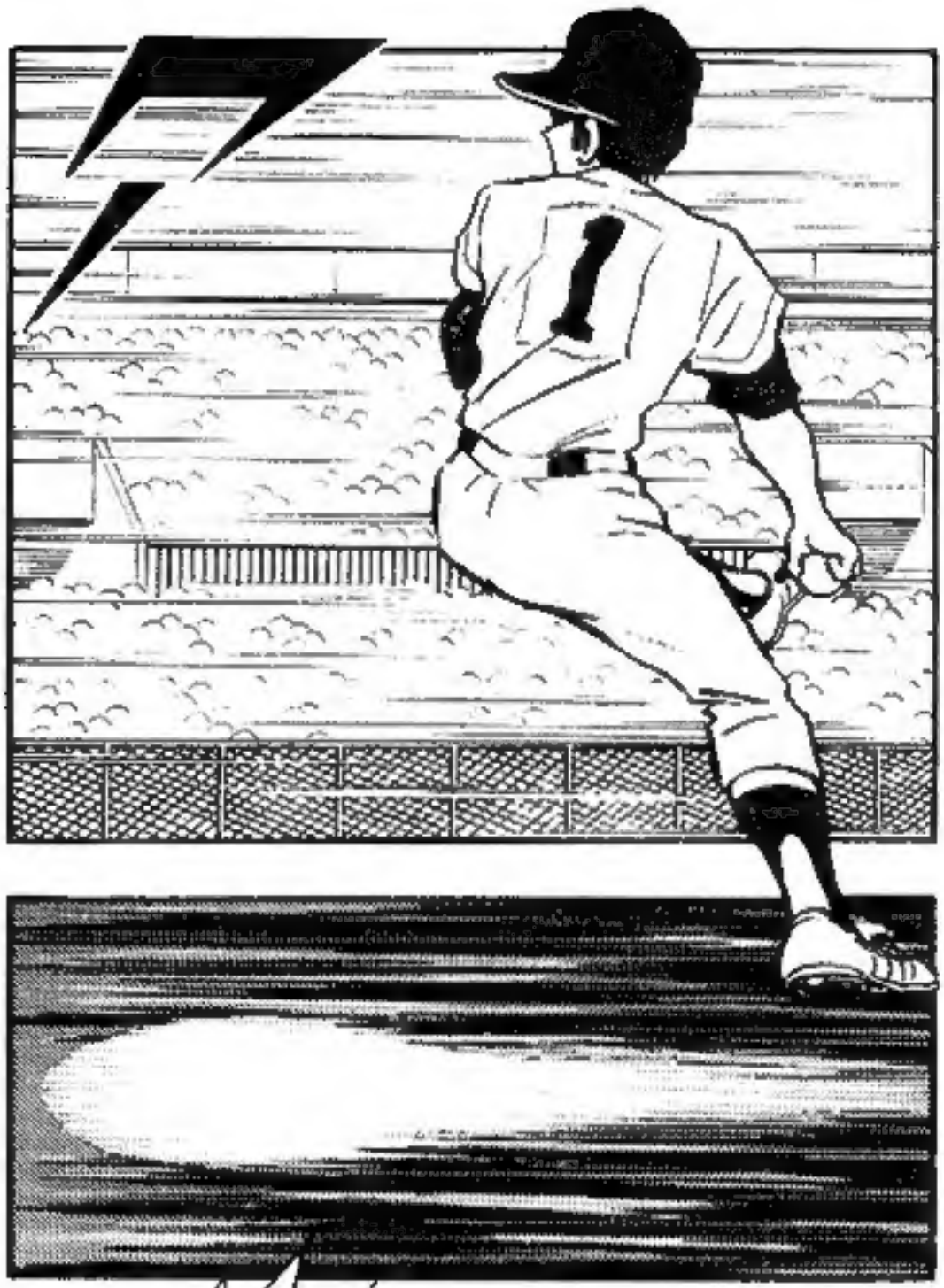
WHAM

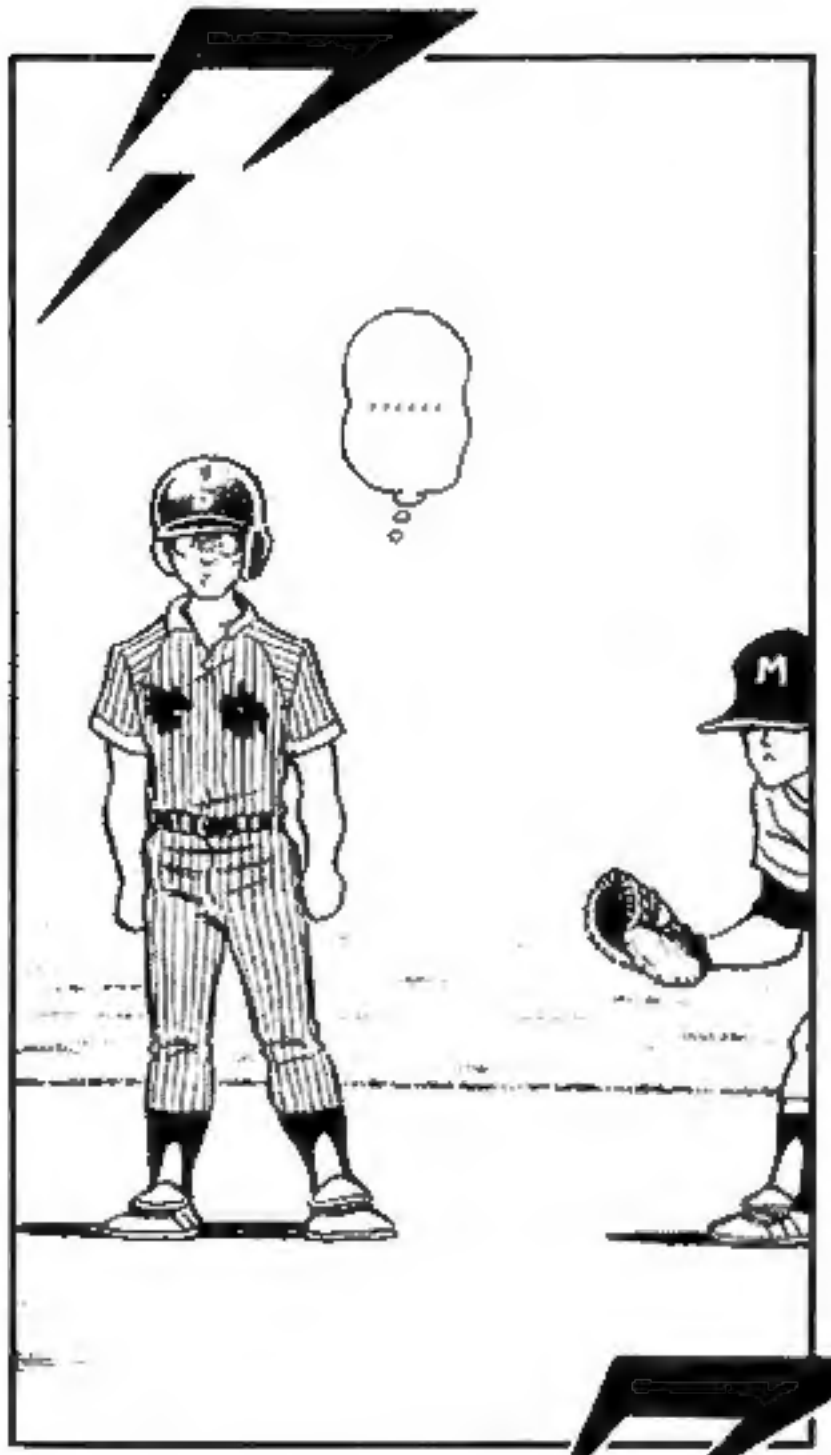
SFX: <WHAP>

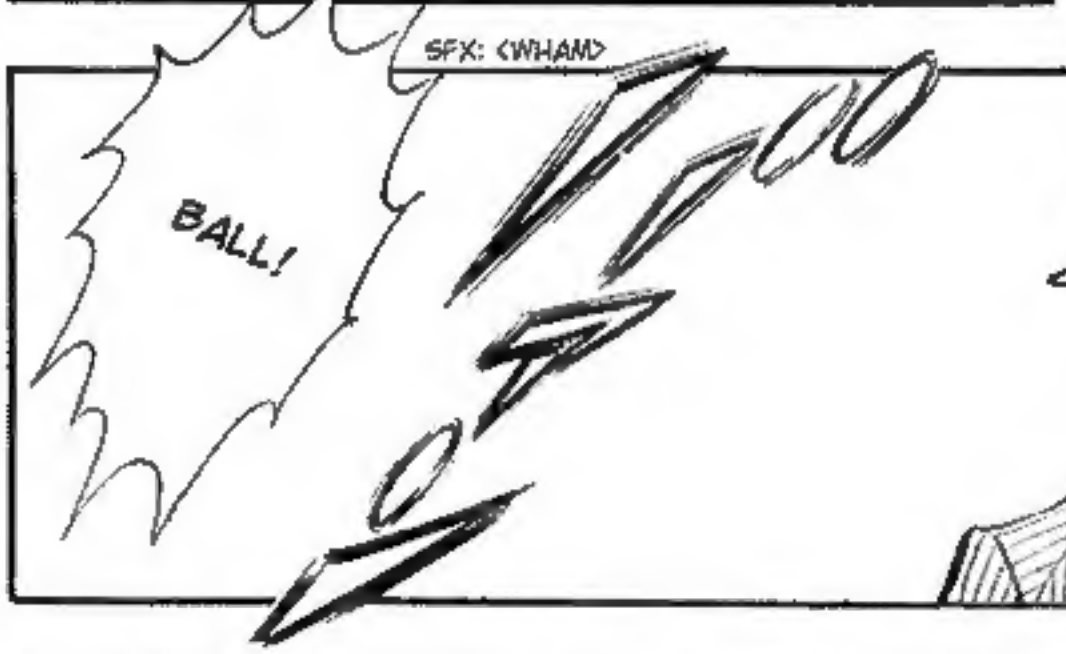
SFX: <WHAM>

SFX: <THUD>

BALL FOUR!







SFX: <WHAM>

BALL!

OUT!

SFX: <WAHHH>

.....

AH... SORRY.

WHAT IS IT, YA JERK!?

WELL, WELL ...

IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME PATTERN AS THE FIRST INNING...

CHEER: <NO CONTROL! NO CONTROL!>

SFX: <WHAP>

BALL!

SFX: <WHAM>

SFX: <SPLAT>

SFX: <THUD>

BATTER OUT!

甲子園だぜ！
勢南高

BANNER: <IT'S KOUSHIEN! SEINAN HIGH.>

WITH HIM THAT WAY, THERE'S NO WAY TO NARROW DOWN ON A TARGET.

HE'S AN UNPRE-DICTABLE PITCHER, HUH?

HMPH

HE'LL BE EXHAUSTED MIDWAY...

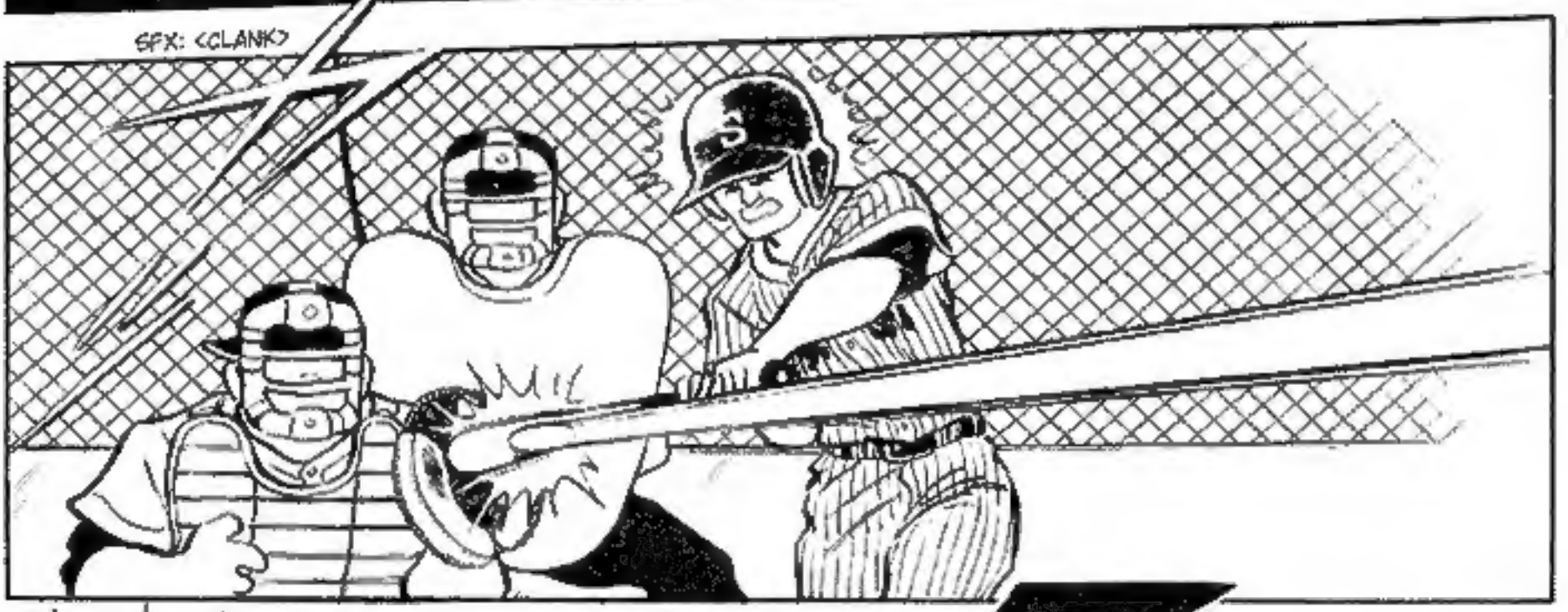
OR DESTROY HIMSELF WITH WALKS ...

THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL LAST INTO THE 9TH INNING, PITCHING LIKE THAT.

CUT THE CHATTER.

WITH A RUN, I'LL MAKE US WINNERS!

EITHER WAY, WE SHOULD GET A RUN.


SFX: <CLANK>

OUT!
WOBBLE WOBBLE

BANNER: CHEISED
Right! Right!
You're only asking for an autograph.
But
Miko go-o-o.

I WON-DER IF I SHOULD GET IN THEIR WAY?

YO.

IT SEEMS THAT AROUND YOU, THINGS GET QUIET.

YEAH . .

BZZ

BZZ

AM I A MOSQUITO REPEL-LANT?

DUMMY, IT WASN'T A FIGHT I HAD A MATCH ...

A BOXING MATCH.

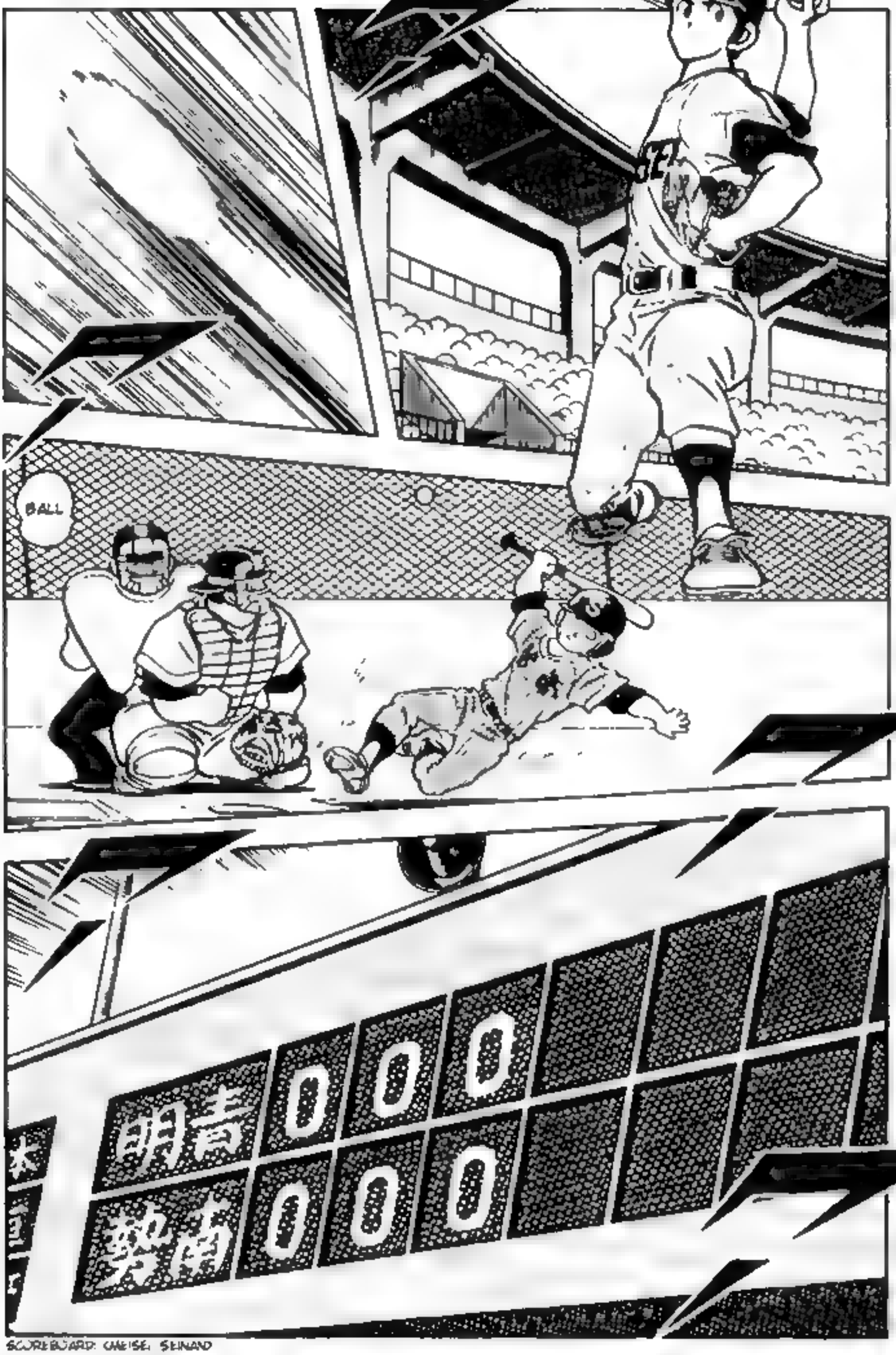
DOESN'T THAT LOOK BAD FOR A SCHOOL THAT'S SHOOTING FOR KOUSHIEN?

WHAT HAPPENED? HOW'D YOU GET HURT?

I RECOM-MENDED A GOOD HOSPITAL

HE'S ALL RIGHT

I SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OPPONENT WHO HURT YOU.


BALL
明青
0 0 0
0 0 0
SCOREBOARD: CHEISEI SEINAN

FLUTTER

7

MEI SE

PHEW-W-W

IT'S HOT.

7

MEI SEI

7

RATTLE RATTLE

7

RIGHT!

8

AH... THANKS.

LIESUGI, WANT SOME GUM?

LET'S GET GOING!

M

NO NEED TO HOLD BACK ANY MORE!!

OKAY! IT'S THE 2ND TIME AROUND!

STRIKE !

SFX. <WHAP>

MEI SEI

HE'S AN AMAZING PITCHER...

THAT HE THROWS A CURVEBALL LIKE THAT IN HIGH SCHOOL...

THIS GAME ...

I WONDER HOW IT WILL TURN OUT?

THEY'D SAY YOUR PITCH SPEED IS ALSO AMAZING, HUH?

WELL, ALTHOUGH IF I COULD TALK TO THEIR BENCH...

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YOU'RE THE OLDER BROTHER OF UESUGI KAZUYA, WHO DIED UNDEFEATED.

AFTER ALL

WAH

WE'LL WIN.

WAH

MEI SEI

MEI SEI

MEI SEI

MEI

AH...

DO YOU HATE BEING SPOKEN OF THAT WAY?

NOT REAL-LY.

NO...

KAZUYA...

JUST YOU
WATCH...

I'M
SURE
...

151 SE

RUMBLE!!

OUT!

WHAM

明青 0 0 0 0

熱南 0 0 0

SCOREBOARD (MEISEI SEINAN)

If It's That Much, It's Hit That Much

REGIONAL TOURNA-MENT, 2ND ROUND

MEISEI HIGH VS. SE NAN HIGH...

0-0!

BOTTOM OF THE 4TH, SE NAN BATTING ...

SFX: <CLINK>

TWO OUTS, NOBODY ON!

MEI SE

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BATTING CLEANUP, THE PITCHER NISHIMURA-KUN!

NISHIMURA-KUN, WHO'S DAMN GOOD WITH THE HIGH PITCH

AFTER HITTING A HIGH PITCH...

FROM AN WESUGI

THUMP

I JUST MIGHT HAVE THEM AWARD YOU THAT TITLE!

FOUL!

SFX: <CLINNNK>

HUMPH

IF IT'S THAT MUCH ...

IT'S HIT THAT MUCH, HM?

THEN ...

HOW ABOUT THIS MUCH !?

FOUL BALL!

RIGHT, NISHI-MURA?

THE ONE WHO'S MOST SURPRISED IS THE ONE WHO HIT IT, HIMSELF...

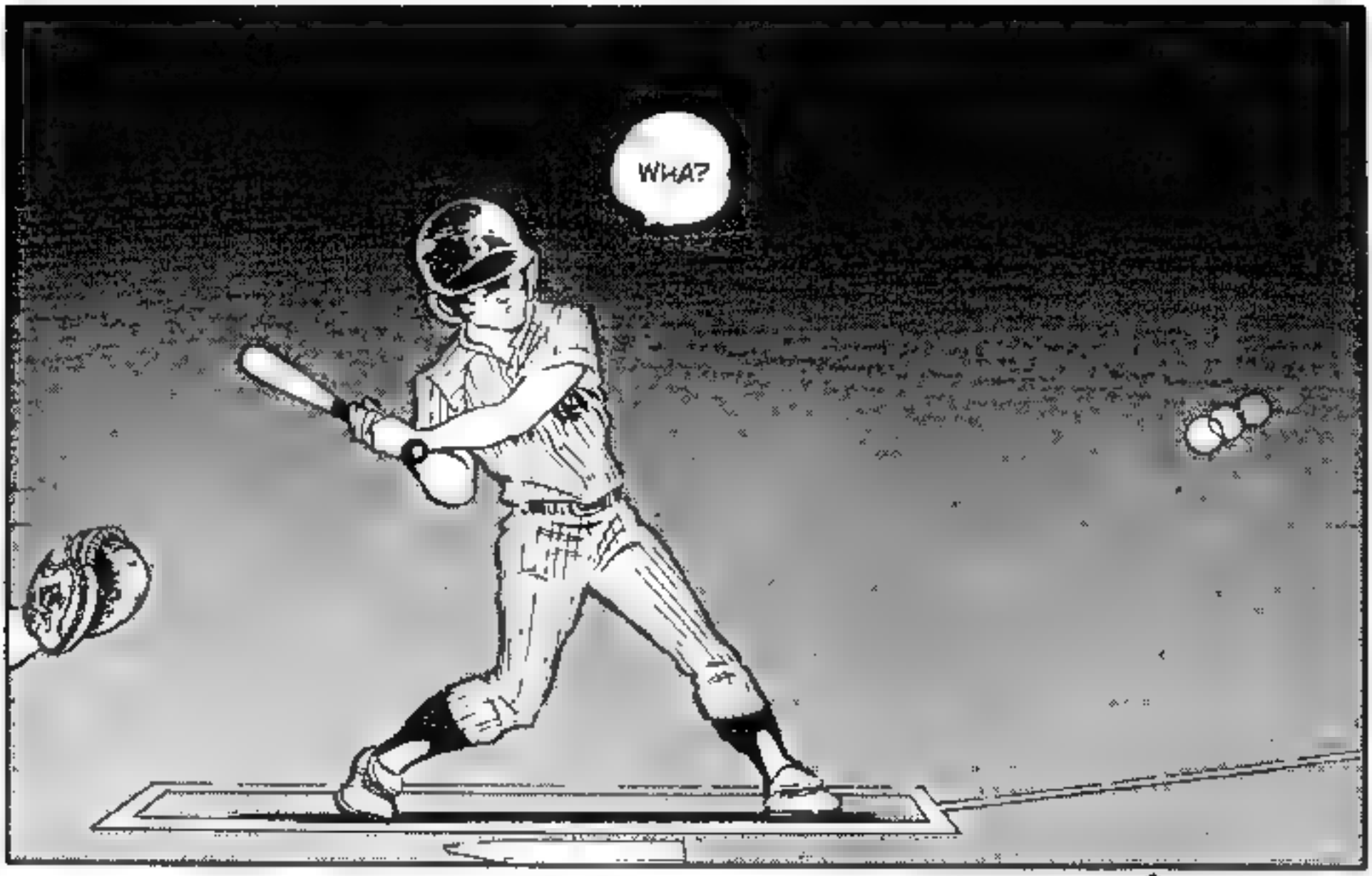
KEEP CALM!

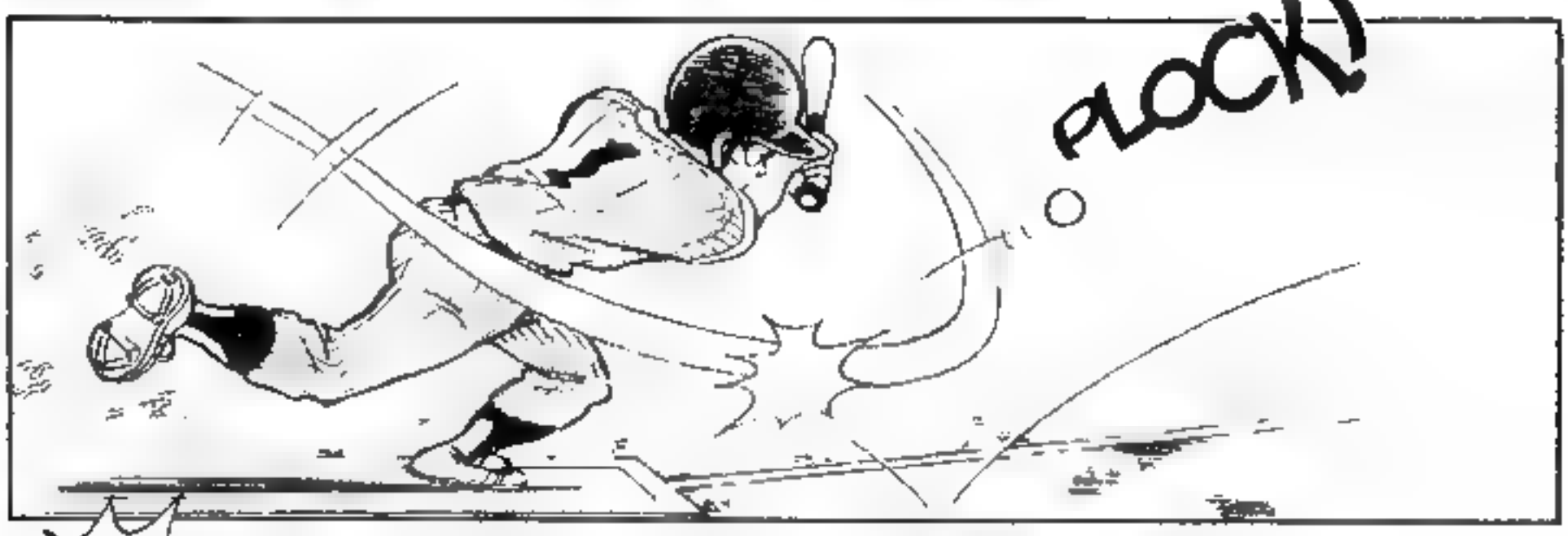
UESUGI-I-I!!

IT WAS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME LUCKY HIT!

IDIOT!!

SFX: <FLASH!>


WHA?


CLOCK!

OUT!
PLOP
PLOP
3

SFX: <CLANK>

AS I MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED OF YOU, NISHIMURA.

YOU'RE THE FIRST TO HIT MY CURVE-BALL!

ONCE, WHEN I WAS IN 3RD-YEAR JUNIOR HIGH...

I'D BEEN ASKED BY THE BASEBALL TEAM, AND APPEARED IN A PRACTICE GAME.

SCOREBOARD <MEISEI SEINAN>

MY TALENT WAS THOUGHT HIGHLY OF BY THE PUNY BASEBALL TEAM AND...

IN MY OWN WAY, I WAS ALSO CONFI-DENT.

BUT ...

OUR OPPONENT IN THAT GAME WAS UESUGI KAZUYA...

MY 4TH AT-BAT DIDN'T COME AROUND.

I WAS THE TOP BATTER, BUT...

IN THE END, I STRUCK OUT THREE TIMES...

A BEAU-TIFUL PERFECT GAME...

SO THEN ...

LOOKING FOR THAT 4TH AT-BAT, IS THAT WHY YOU STARTED PLAYING BASEBALL?

YEAH ...

BUT HE HAD AN OLDER TWIN BRO-THER...

BUT, JUST BEFORE OUR CON-FRONTATION, HE DIED.

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

FLAG. <IT'S ! SEINAN HIGH>

BATTING SIXTH, THE PITCHER HESUGI-KUN!

KEH

YEAH.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S STOPPED IMITATING NITTA-KUN, HM?

I THINK THAT'S GOOD.

SFX: <WHAP!>

OKAY.

CROWD: <CRUSH IT CRUSH IT IESUGI!>

UESUGI
TATSUYA
...
HITS
IT!
SFX <CLINK>

OH.

SE

BEING CALLED A NATURAL...

PERHAPS HE'S MORE WORTHY OF THAT THAN HIS LATE KID BROTHER...

A HIT, A HIT!

THE FIRST HIT!

SFX. <CRUNCH!>

FEH

SFX: <RUN!>

EH?

SFX: <WHAP!>

SFX: <WHAP!>

SAFE!

STRIKE!

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.....

HM

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!

'CAUSE YOU'RE THE PITCHER..

TAKE IT EASY ON YOUR-SELF.

HEY, HEY

HAA

HAA

IDIOT...

SAFE!

HEY, HEY.

SFX: <WHAP!>

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

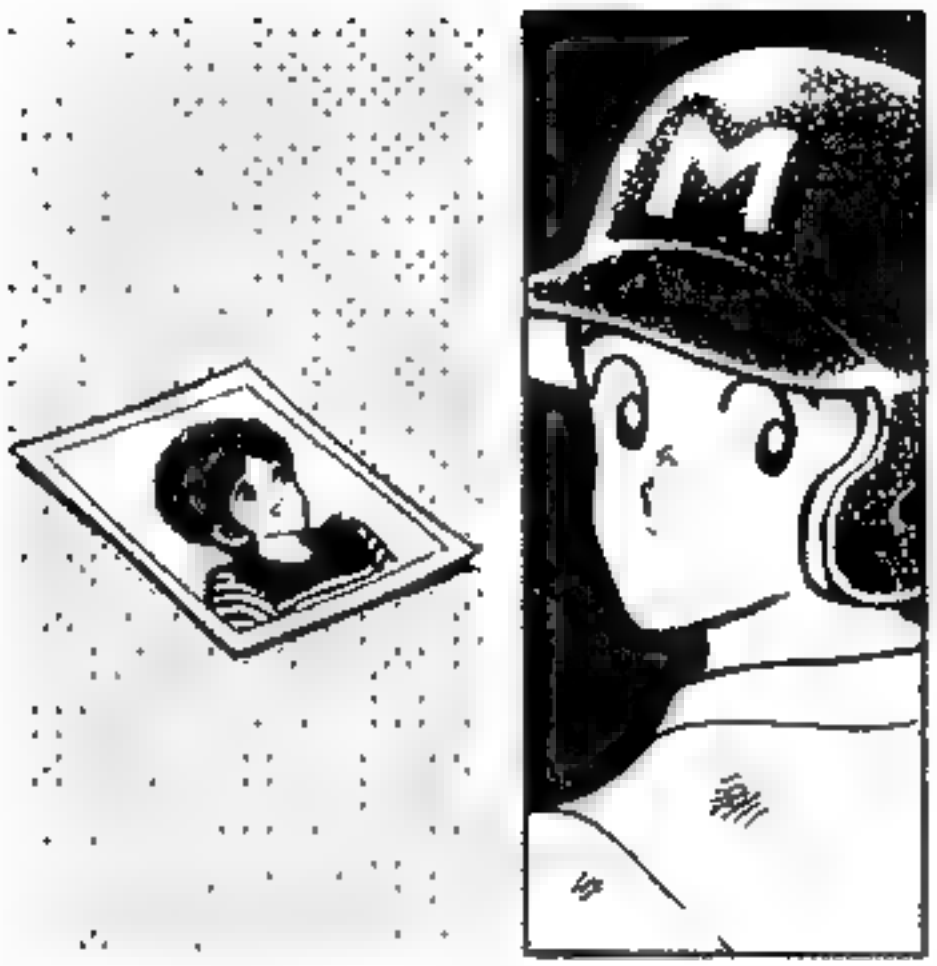
HAA

HAA

HAA

HAA

CHANGE!



SCOREBOARD
2 MATSUDAIRA
5 KUROKI
9 MIHARA
1 UESUGI
6 OKAWARA
3 HIROSE

I Wonder If He's All Right

SHAKU
SHAKU

SHAKU
SHAKU

SCOREBOARD: (MEISEI) SEINAN

明誠
誠南

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SLOWLY

CLACK
CLACK

TO LET UESUGI REST A LITTLE?

IS HE MAKING TIME..

EH?

GET A MOVE ON, KOUTAROU!

HEEEY !!

YOU IDIOT...

HURRY IT UP!

I WONDER IF HE'S ALL RIGHT?

STANDING ON THE MOUND RIGHT AFTER HE RAN ALL THE WAY TO 3RD BASE...

THIS WOULD BE A TIME TO WORRY ABOUT WILDNESS IN HIS CONTROL ...

IF HE WAS AN ORDINARY PITCHER ...

INSTEAD OF THAT ...

WHAT'S SERIOUS IS THAT WESUGI-KUN DOESN'T HAVE THE WILL TO PUT HIS EXHAUSTION OUT OF HIS MIND.

RIGHT.

RIGHT?

E Book

IT'S THE STOLEN BASES BACK THEN...

ALTHOUGH IN THE END, IT ENDED UP WITH THE BATTER STRIKING OUT..

HE MIGHT HAVE SCORED A RUN ON A PASSED BALL OR A WILD PITCH .

ALL PROB-ABILITY ASIDE ...

THERE WAS THE POSSI-BILITY.

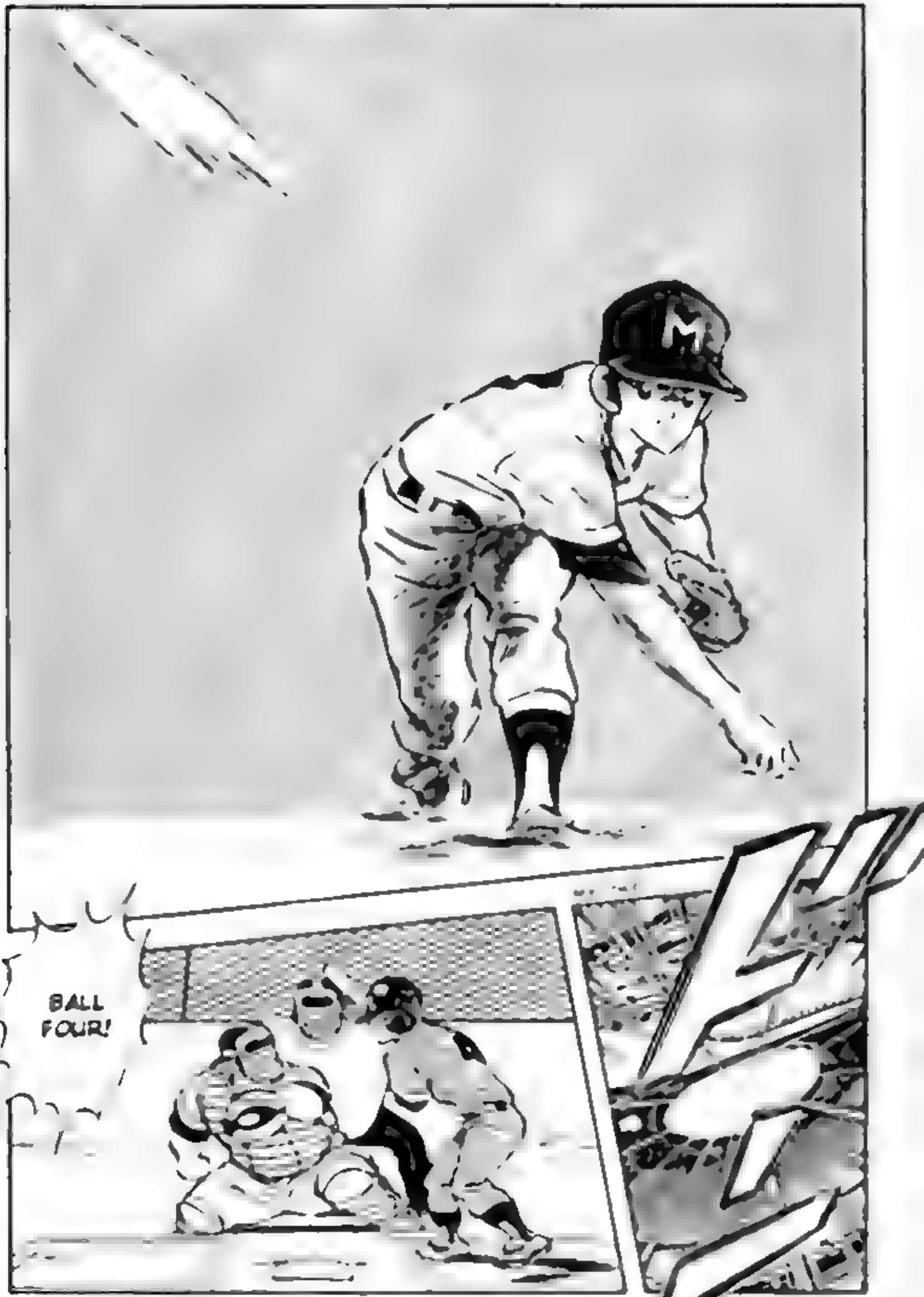
YES.

INSTEAD OF PLAYING IT DEFENSIVELY FOR THE NEXT INNING, HE TOOK THE OFFENSIVE, REGARDLESS.

HUFF

YES.

THAT TATSUYA-KUN IS...


BALL FOUR!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!

HE WAS TOTALLY AT HIS MERCY

WHAT'S WITH THE ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT?

EVEN IF IT WAS CALLED A STRIKE, IT WAS A CLOSE PITCH THAT HE COULDN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT!

JUST WAITING FOR A WALK AN OFFENSIVE ATTACK!!

YOU CAN'T CALL

IT'S JUST AS NISHIMURA SAYS.

THE COACH.

I'M THE COACH ...

...

SURE ..

AH.

SFX: <TREMBLE>

SFX: <PLOCK>

OUT!

OUT!

PHEW

SFX: <CRUNCH!?

WHY DON'T WE GET A LITTLE CLOSER?

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SFX: <FLASHHHH!>

M

SEI

SFX: <WHAP>

SFX: <CLINK>

SFX: <BOP>

GOOD !!

OW.

OUT!

YOU'VE GROWN UP AS A PITCHER, TOO..

WHEN YOU START THROWING WITH ENERGY...

HAA

AND YET YOU TALK ABOUT "MOVING THEM ALONG?"

WE CAN'T EVEN GET A SINGLE HIT...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "MOVE THEM ALONG?"

WE CAN'T MOVE THEM ALONG, HUH...

SHIT-T-T! WE GET RUNNERS ON EVERY INNING, BUT...

EH...

IT'S JUST AS NISHIMURA SAYS.

SEINAN, FAVORED TO WIN THE CHAMPION-SHIP, WE'LL ALL BE LAUGHING-STOCKS!

IF THIS KEEPS UP AND WE LOSE, IT WILL BE A NO-HIT SHUTOUT.

WE'VE REACHED BASE ON 4 WALKS, 2 HIT BATTERS AND AN ERROR...

IT'S JUST AS NISHIMURA SAYS.

SCORE BOOK

GEH.

AND THAT'S IT.

BATTING IN THE #3 SLOT, THE CATCHER MATSUDAIRA-KUN!

FAN: <FAN>

HAA

HAA

MEI SEI

SFX: <WHIFF>

NO MATTER WHAT!!

GET IT START-ED!

WHAT CAN I DO TO HIT IT!?

AHH-HH!

SFX: <WHIFF>

KAZUYA, LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH!

SFX: <CLINK>

CRUNCH

ARG.

KAZUYA-A-A!!

SFX: <CRUNCH!>

HE'D BE AN AMAZING PITCHER...

IF HE WAS A LITTLE MORE CALM...

DAWN

CLINK

SEI

SEI

FAN <FAN>

M
MEI SEI
HMMMM
...
SFX: <THUD>
SFX. <THUD>

So, How Many Runs?

CROWD: <OHHHH!>

BANNER: OMEISEI

明青

EI SEI

M

M

M

EI SEI

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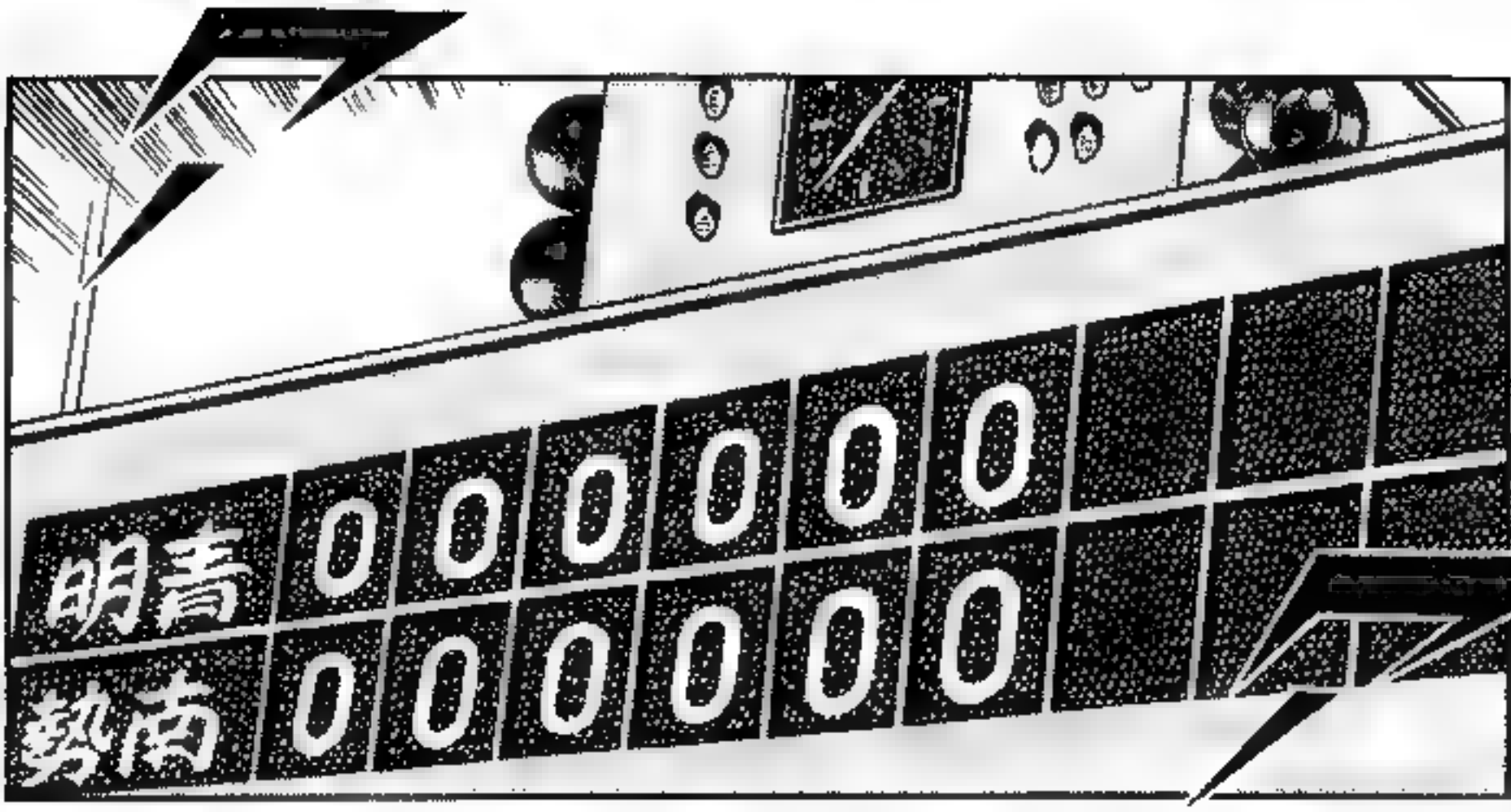
SFX: <WAHHH!>

OUT!!

S



SO, HOW MANY RUNS CAME IN?

A RUNNER WAS ON 2ND AND THE NEXT BATTER HIT A DOUBLE.

MIHARA, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!!

DON'T MIND IT, DON'T MIND IT! ONE OUT, RUNNER ON 2ND!

RIGHT!

SORRY...

3 BALLS, 1 STRIKE !!

I'M JUST A SLOW RUNNER...

BALL!

DAMN.

HE'LL END HIS HOT-STREAK

IF HE GIVES UP ANY RUNS...

SFX: <CLINK>

SFX: <WHAP!>

OOPS.

SHI-I-I .. !!

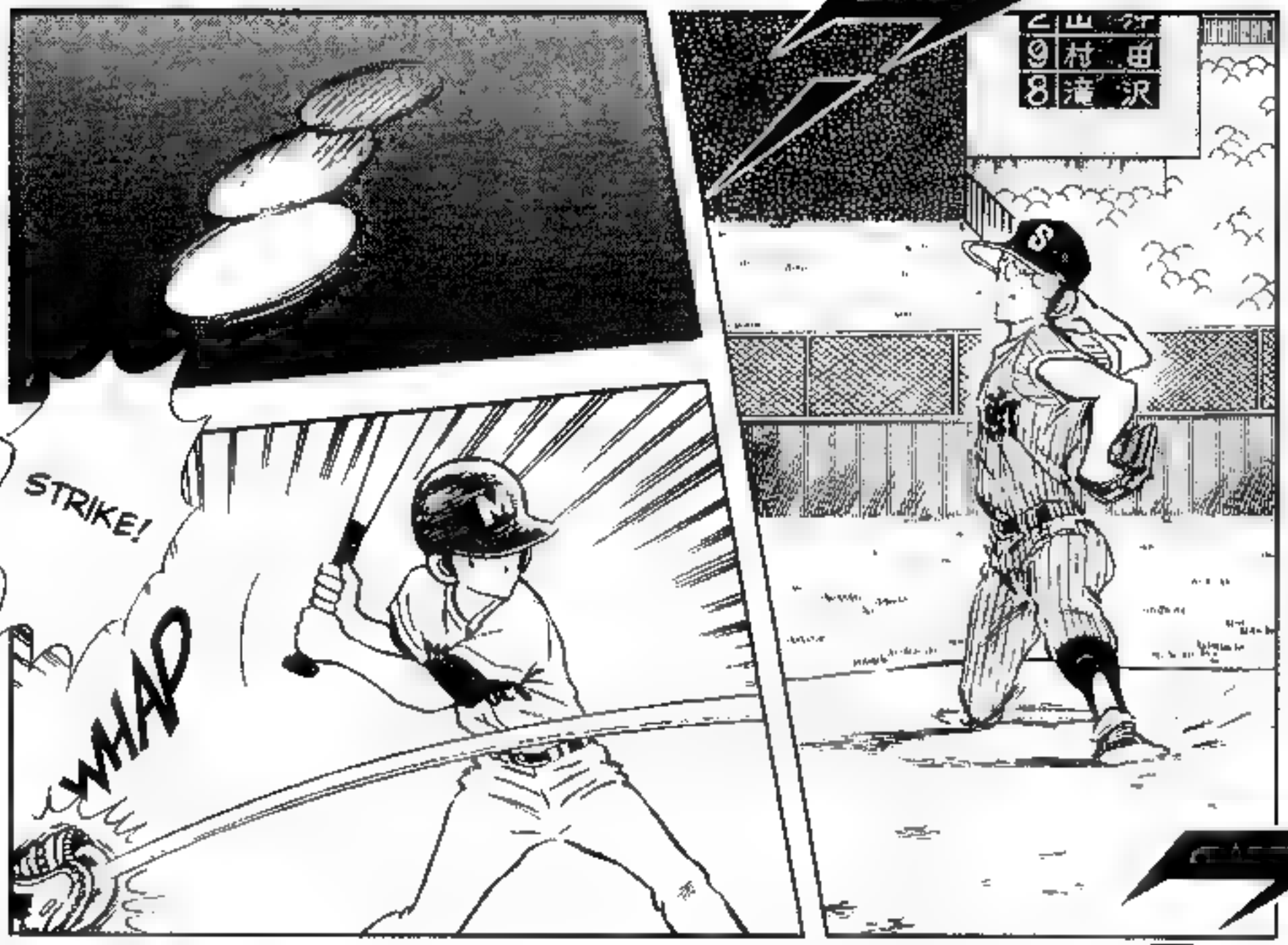
NISHIMURA SAID THANK YOU!

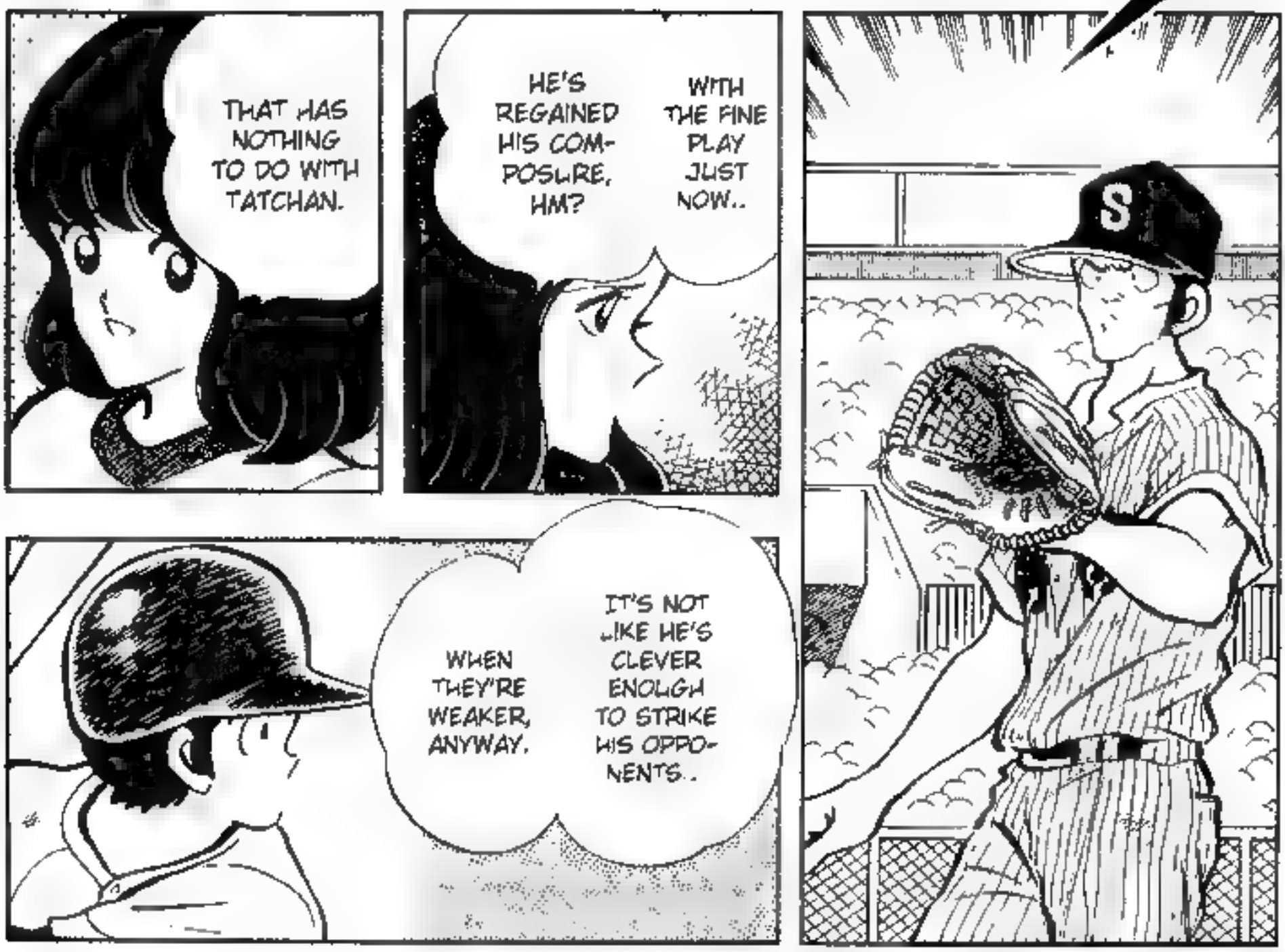
THANK YOU.

PLOP

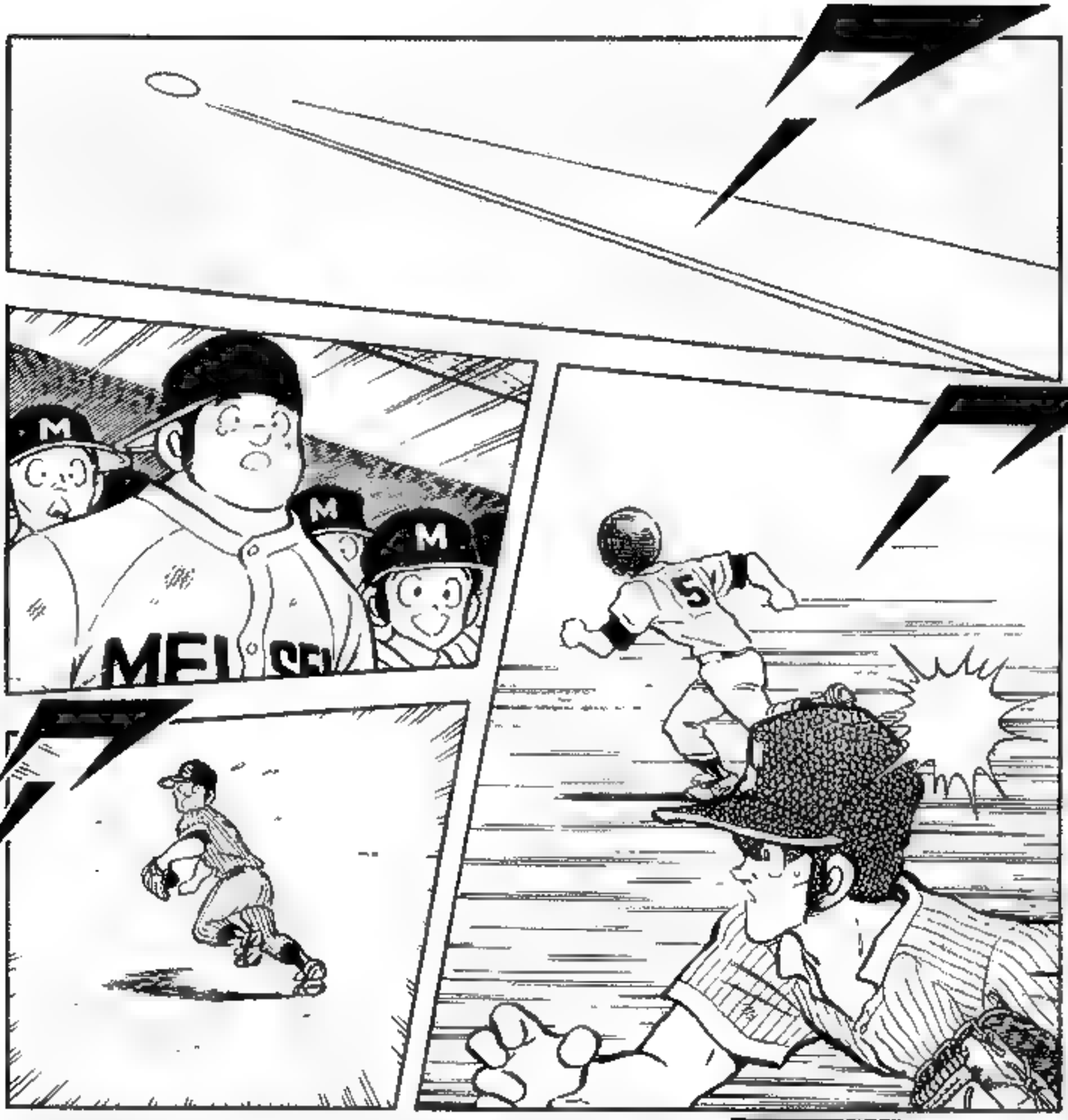
PLOP

BATTING IN THE #6 SLOT, THE PITCHER UESUGI-KUN!


STRIKE!
WHAP
9 村 曲
8 滝 沢


THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH TATCHAN.
HE'S REGAINED HIS COMPOSURE, HM?
WITH THE FINE PLAY JUST NOW..
WHEN THEY'RE WEAKER, ANYWAY.
IT'S NOT LIKE HE'S CLEVER ENOUGH TO STRIKE HIS OPPONENTS..

SFX: <CLINK>


M
M
M
MEI
5

SFX: <CRUNCH!>

SCORE B

SFX: <BANG>

7

SFX: <WHAP!>

S

EH?

OUT!

M

M

M

M

M

M

0

BASEBALL ISN'T MATH, IS IT?

LESLIE! ..

SO, HOW MANY RUNS ?

NO OUTS, RUNNER ON 2ND, PLUS 2 DEEP HITS.

TO NISHIMURA, IT WAS A PITCH THAT SHOULDN'T BE HIT.

IT WAS HIS BEST PITCH, THE CURVE, AT THE SPOT HE AIMED FOR..

IT WASN'T A CARELESS PITCH NOR EVEN A WASTED PITCH THROWN IN ANGER.

HE HIT IT PERFECTLY ...

HE HIT THAT BACK PERFECTLY.

HUGE.

THE SHOCK IT GAVE TO NISHIMURA WAS...

UNFORTU-NATELY, THEY DIDN'T SCORE ANY RUNS, BUT ...

WHO'S THE #1 PITCHER OF THE TOURNA-MENT!?

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT BEING THE FAVORITES TO WIN THE CHAMPION-SHIP!?

SFX: <WHAM>

IT'S JUST A MIRACLE THAT I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP ANY RUNS!

HELD TO NO HITS BY OUR OPPONENT ...

WELL ..

LET'S BUCKLE DOWN.

.....

IT'S LIKE NISHI-MURA SAYS

SFX: <THUD>

FOUL

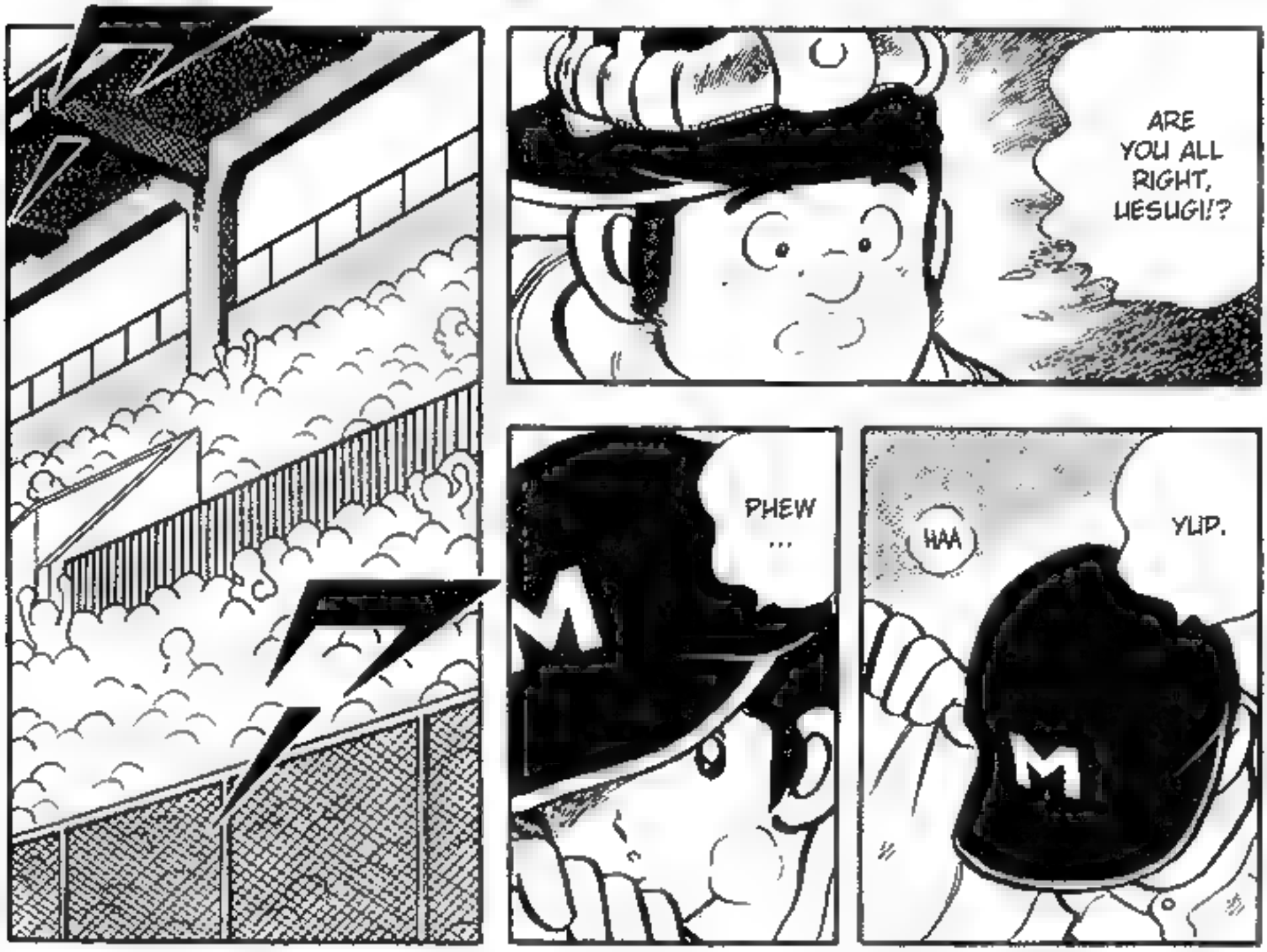
STRIKE!

BATTER OUT!

WELL LET'S BUCKLE DOWN

CHANGE!

SLIDE!
OOPS.


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, UESUGI!?
PHEW ...
HAA
YUP.

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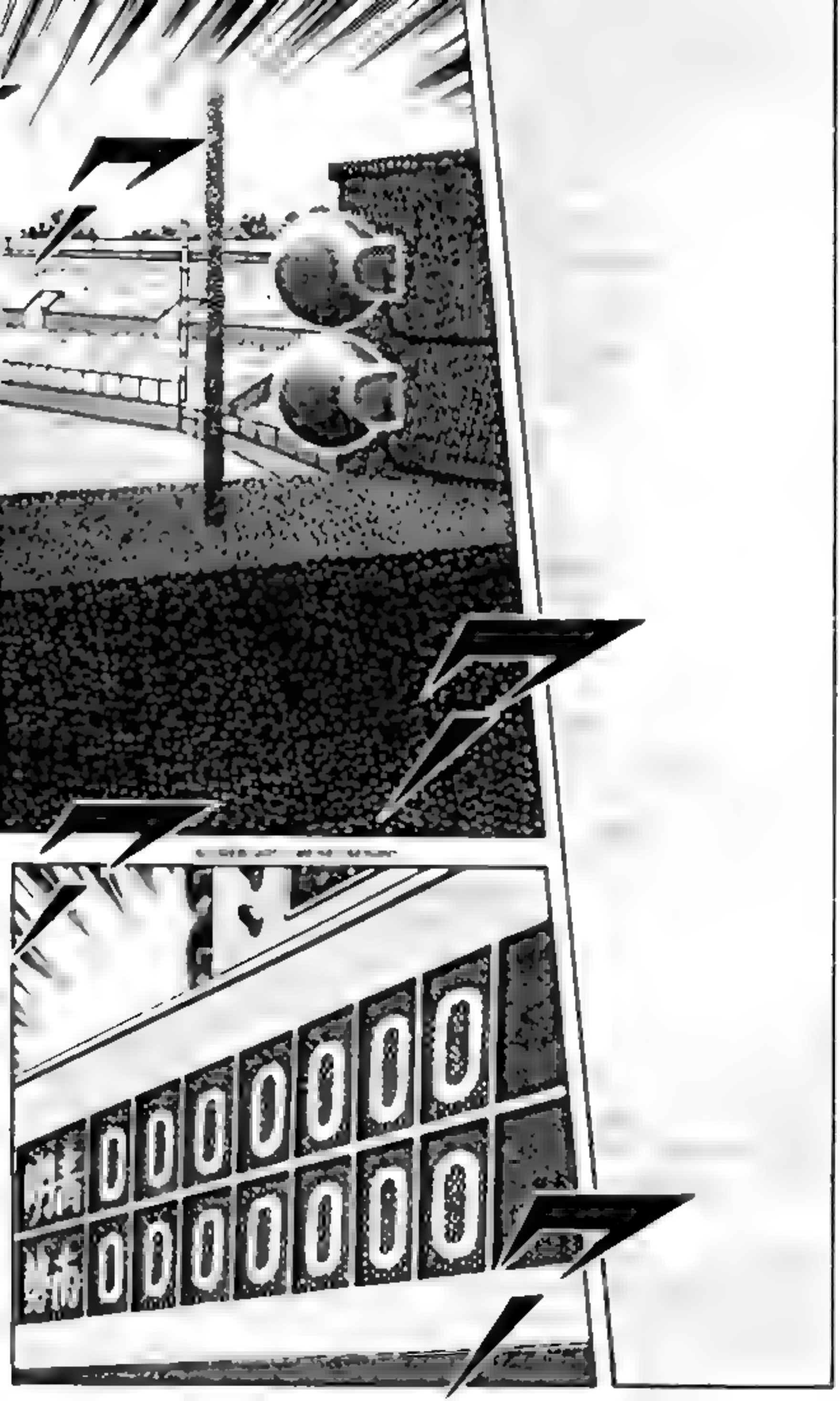
(HM)

SFX (WHUMP)

I'M ALL RIGHT, I'M ALL RIGHT.

(HM)

It's an Endurance Test, Isn't It?



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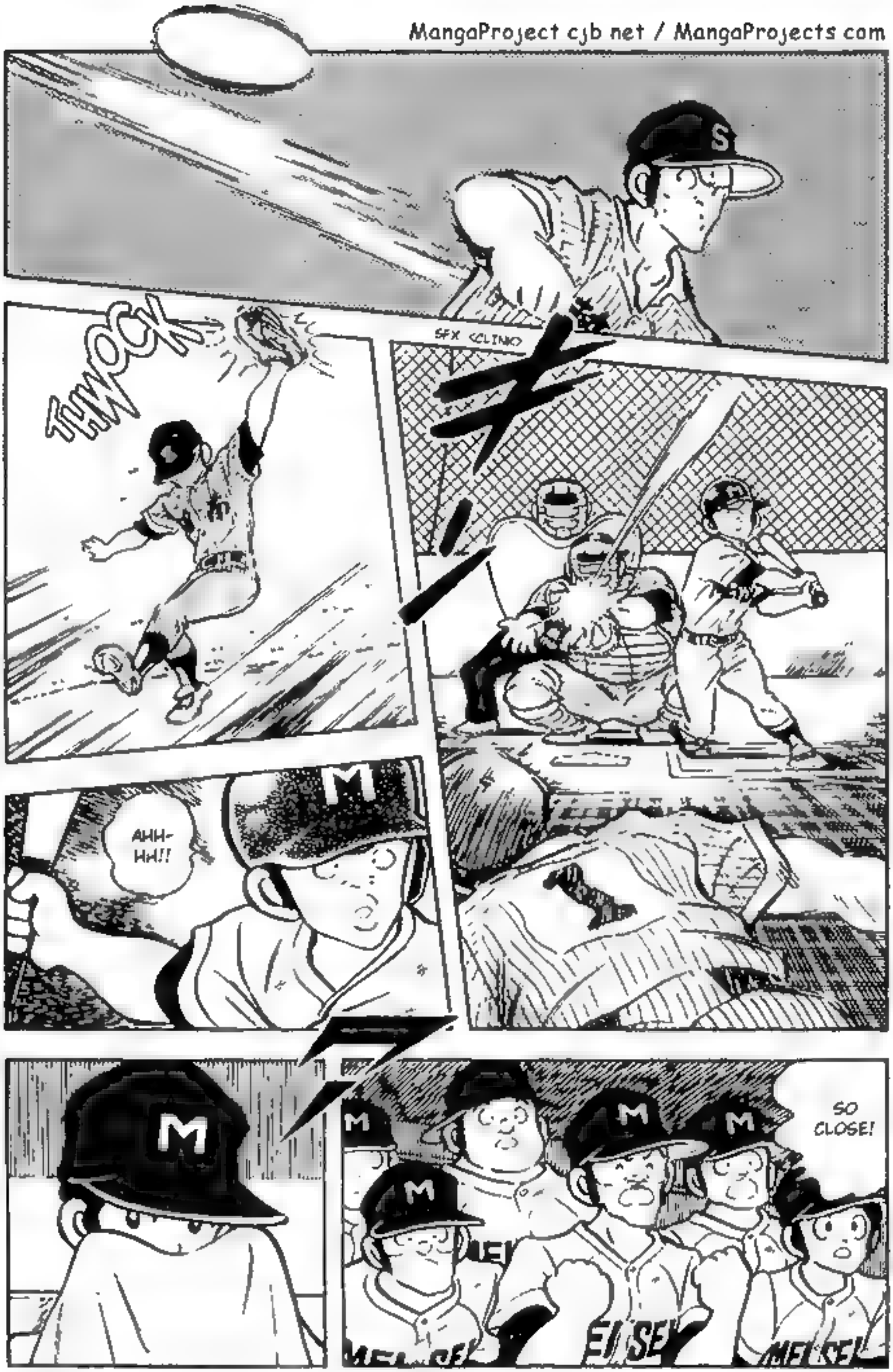


SFX: <CLINK>

SHUDDUP, SHUD-DUP.

DON'T MAKE A FUSS.

NISHI-MURA ...

BUT THEIR FIELDING IS TOP-NOTCH, TOO.

SEINAN TENDS TO STRIKE OTHERS AS BEING A ONE-MAN TEAM OF JUST NISHIMURA ...

HAA

THROUGH 7 INNINGS YOU'VE SHUT THEM OUT ON NO HITS.

BUT...

OUR CHANCE BACK THEN

WAS ALSO SQUASHED BECAUSE OF SEINAN'S DEFENSE.

IF THEIR IMPATIENCE ON OFFENSE CAN AFFECT THEIR DEFENSIVE PLAY...

THEN THEY'LL PLAY RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS...

WHOOSH

DASH!

CLONK

WHAP

OUT!

OUT!

THINGS AREN'T GOING EASILY ACCORDING TO CALCULATIONS, ARE THEY?

OHH.

IF WE'VE COME THIS FAR...

THEN IT'S AN EN-DURANCE TEST, HM.

ACE, HUH...

UP WE GO.

WE'RE COUNT-ING ON YOU...

THE ACE OF MEISEI, HESUGI TATSUYA.

I ONLY ATTRACT ATTEN-TION..

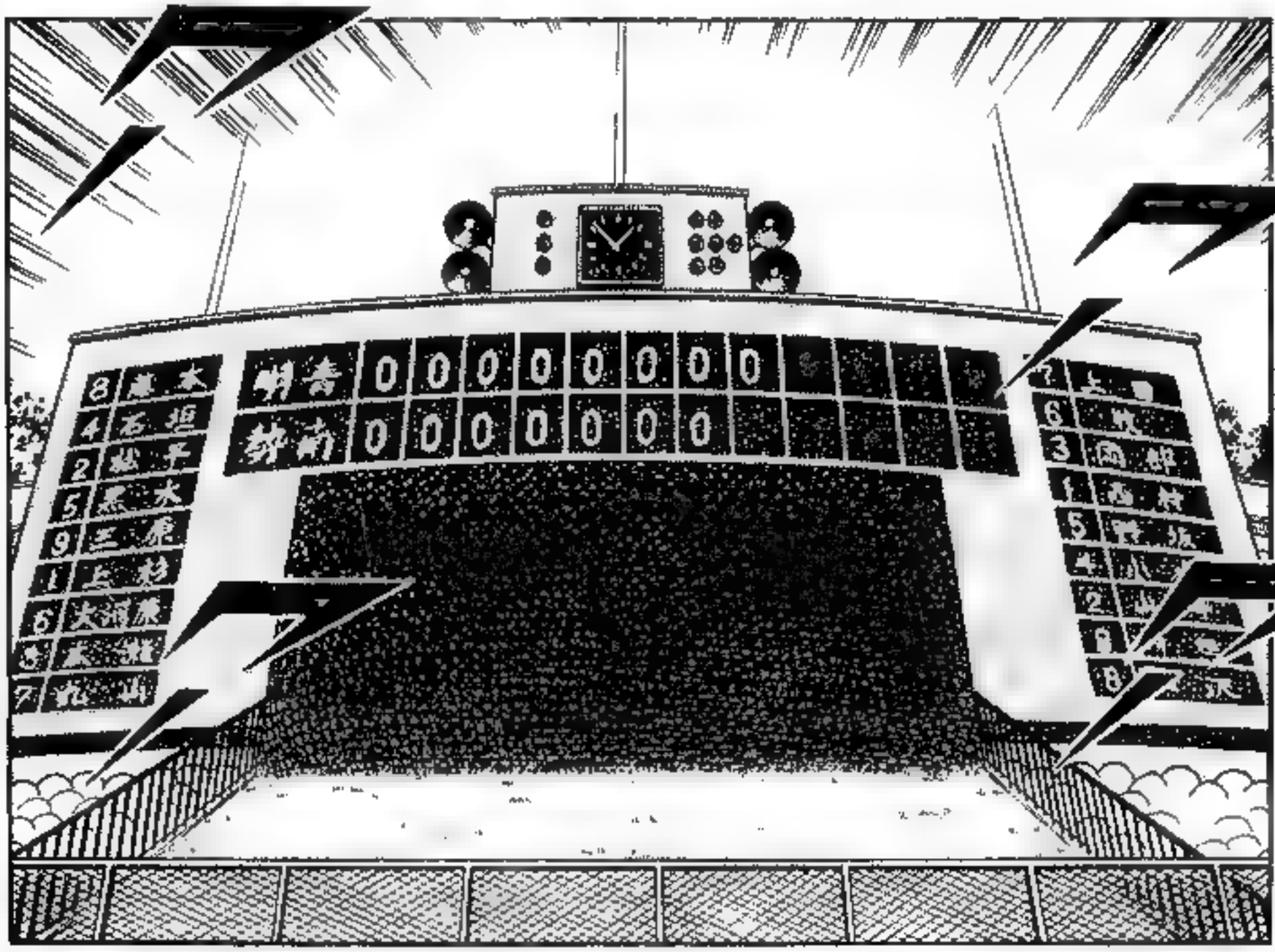
AND IT'S A BOTHER-SOME POSITION ...

HAA

TATSUYA-KUN'S PEP PILL.

MINAMI'S A LITTLE GIANT.

ARG



RUSTLE

IT'S GOTTEN COOL, HM?

.....

BOTTOM OF THE 9TH..

TWO OUTS, RUNNER ON 2ND.

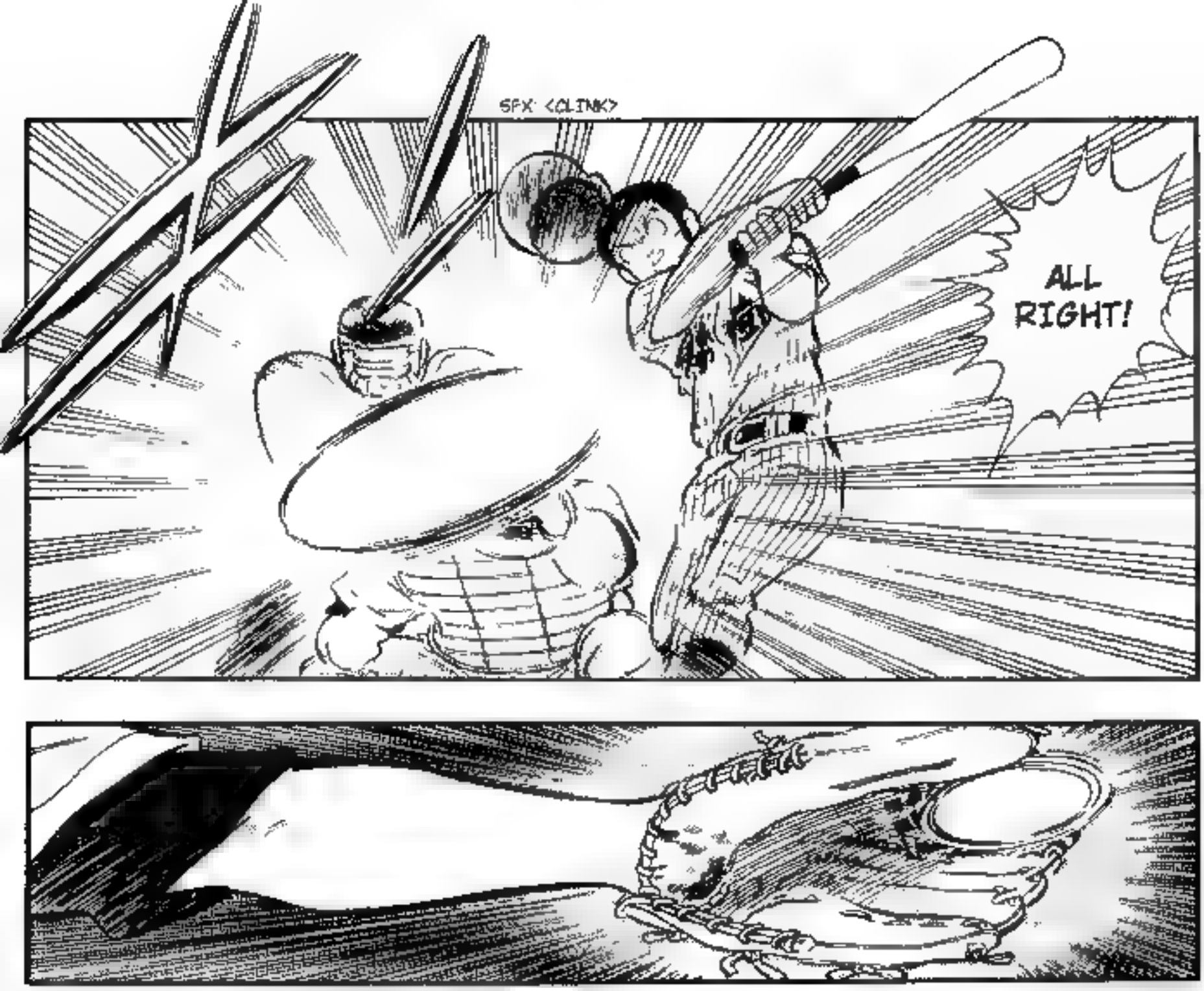
A HIT BATTER AND SACRIFICE BUNT..

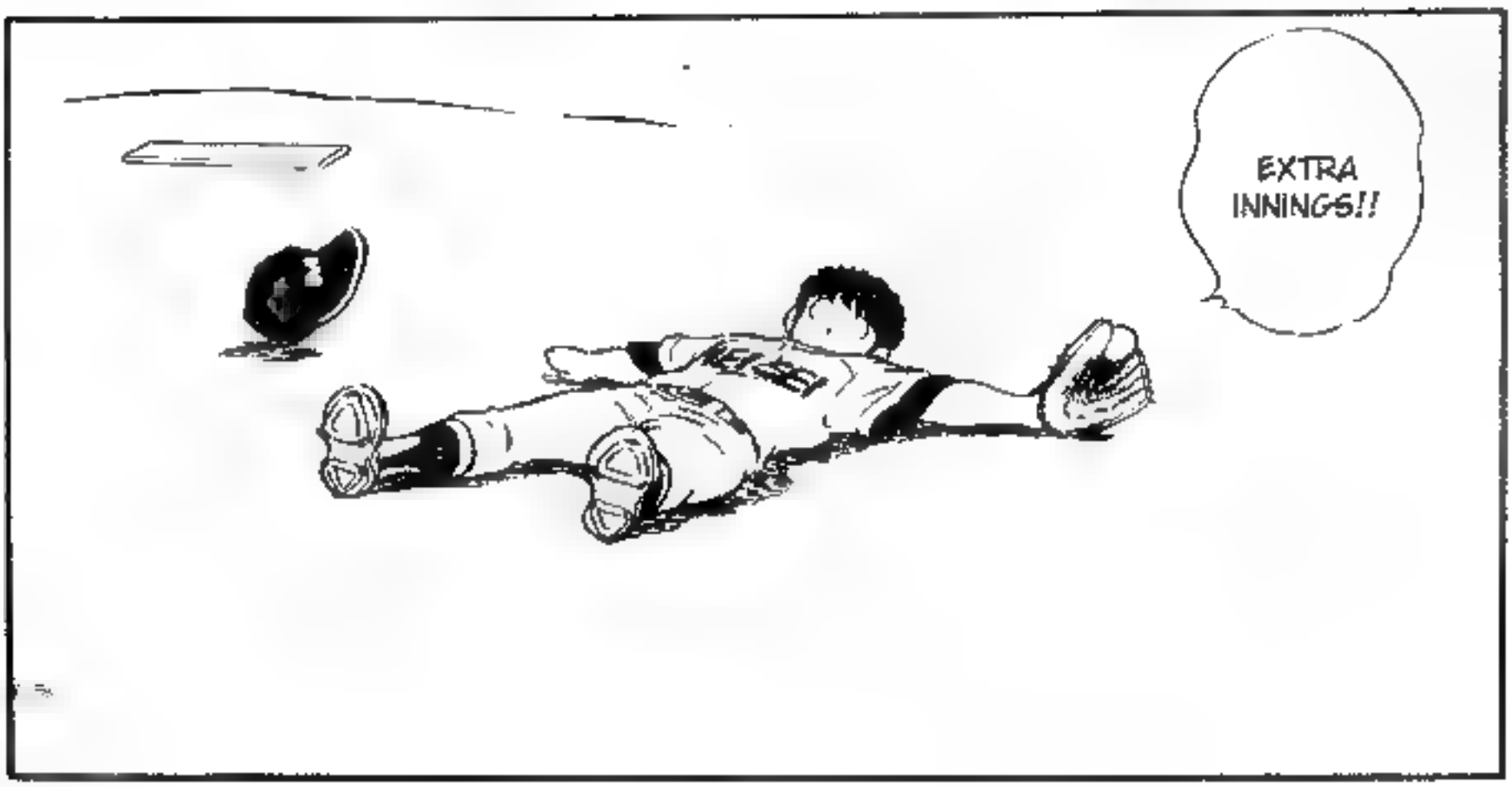
AT BAT, THE CLEANUP HITTER, NISHIMURA.

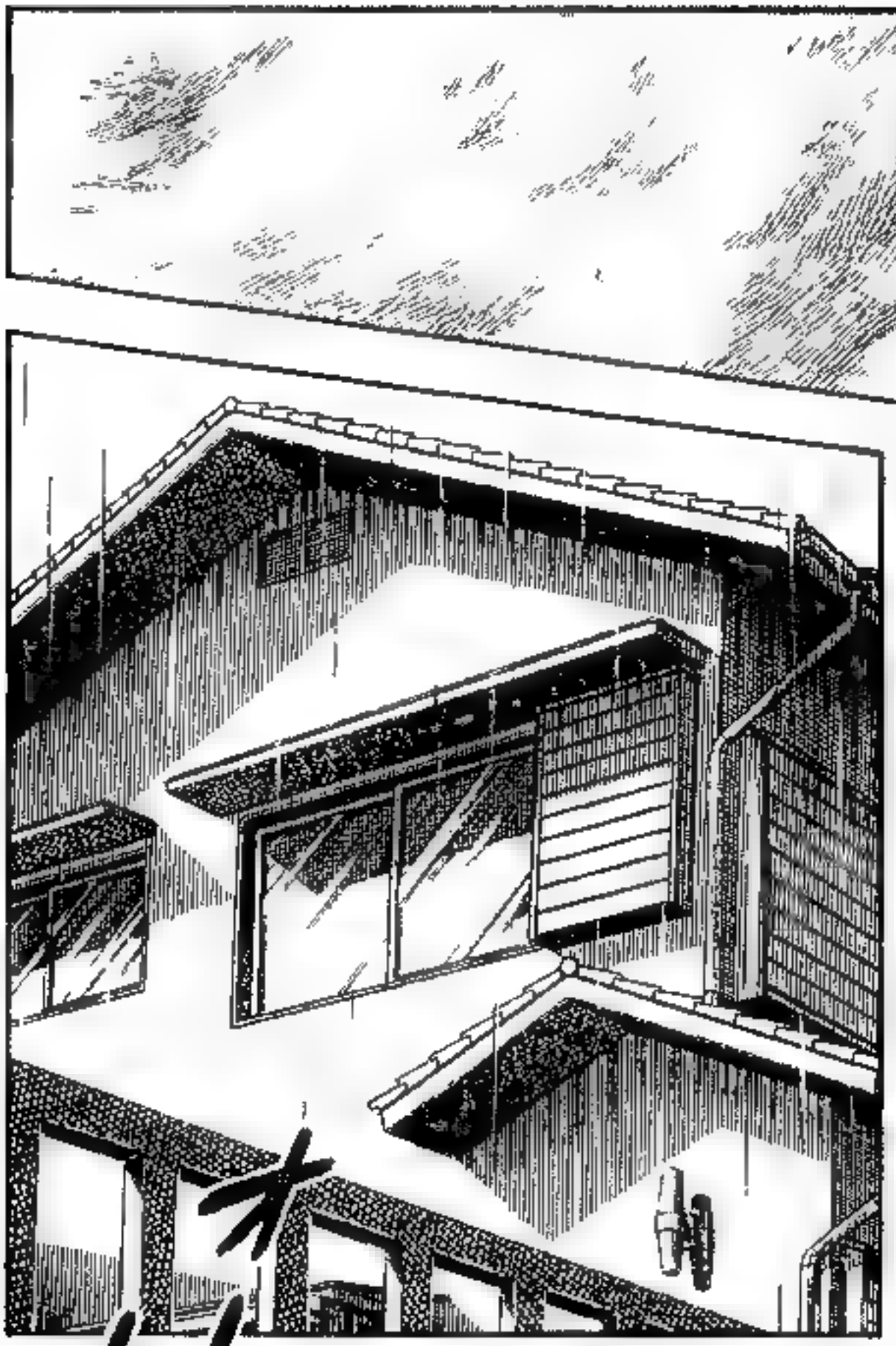
2-1 COUNT, THE 4TH PITCH...

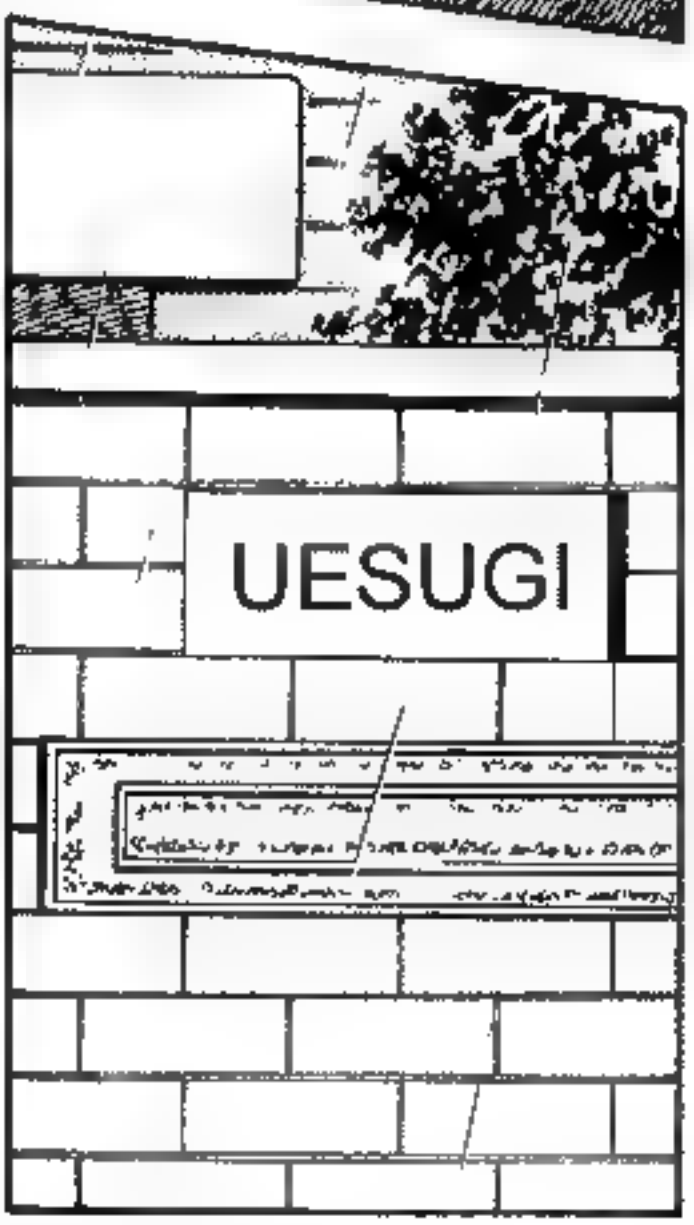
WHOOSH

THE HIGH PITCH THAT I LOVE!!

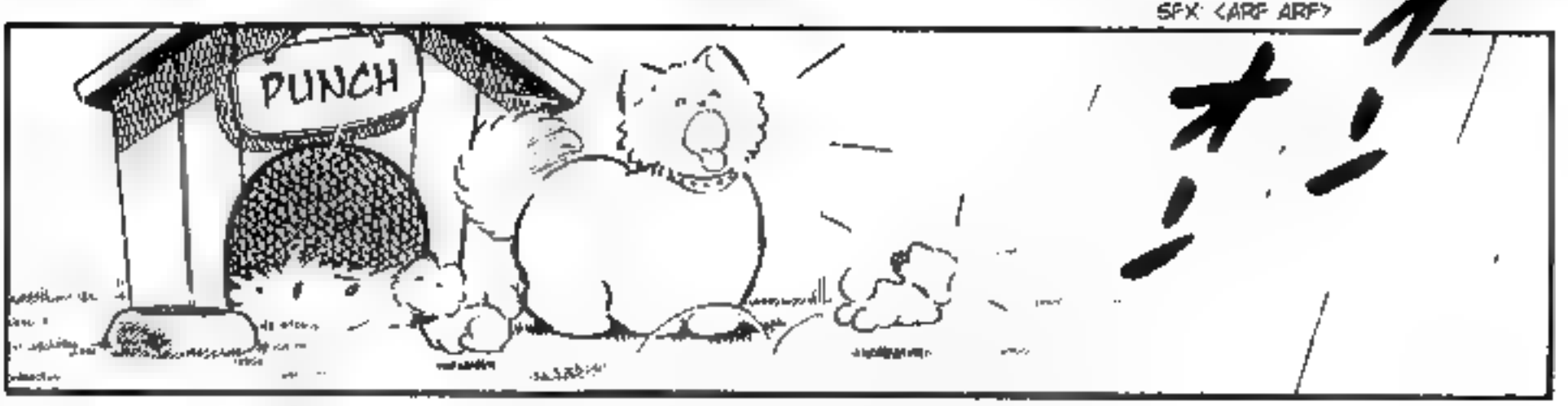

SFX: <CLINK>
ALL RIGHT!


EXTRA INNINGS!!




UESUGI

SFX: <ARF ARF>


SFX: <ARF ARF>
PUNCH

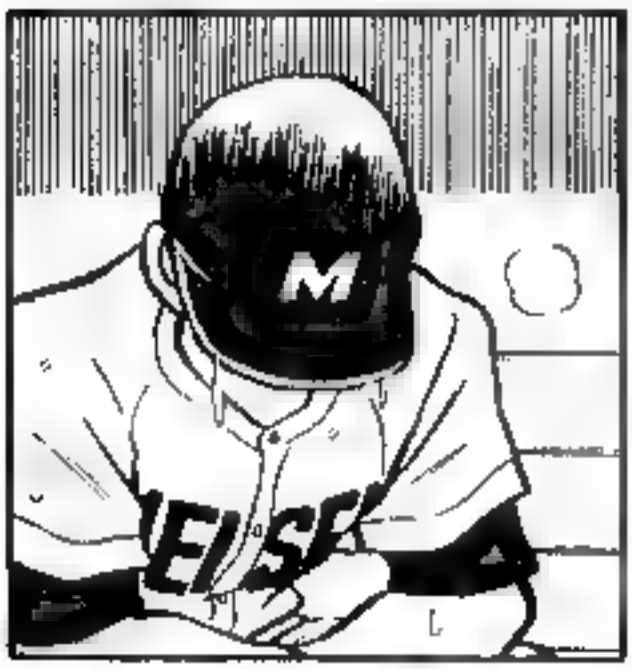
SCOREBOARD CHEISE . SEINAND

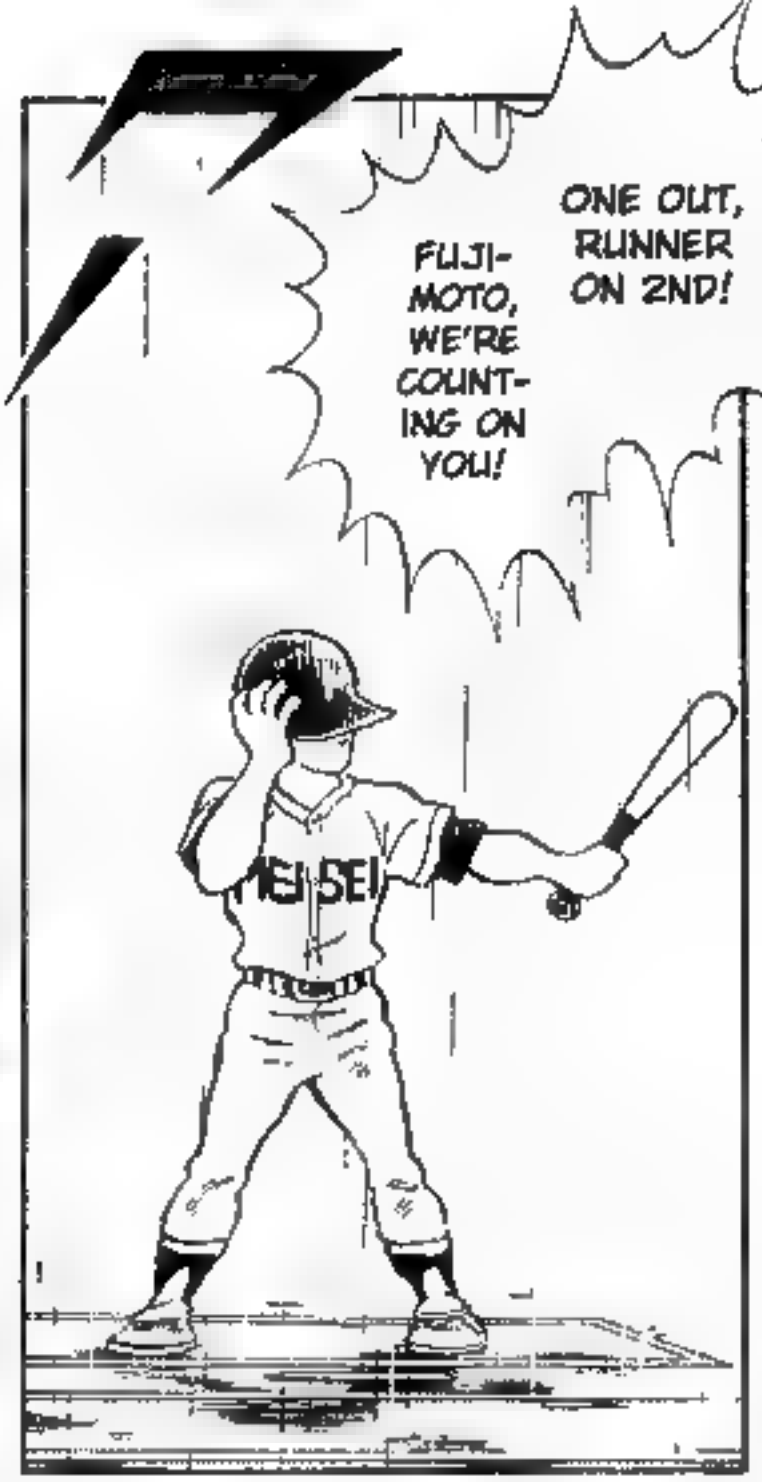
明清	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
勢南	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ALL RIGHT... A SUCCESS-FUL SACRIFICE BUNT!

CLANK

2


M
EISEI


ONE OUT, RUNNER ON 2ND!
FUJI-MOTO, WE'RE COUNT-ING ON YOU!
MEISEI

IF THE GAME DRAGS ON ANY LONGER THAN THIS, IT'LL BE HARD...

IT FAVORS NISHI-MURA-KUN.
WITH THE DIFFERENCE IN EX-PERIENCE AND TECH-NIQUE...

TATSUYA-KUN IS THROWING AT HIS LIMITS...
AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, THIS RAIN...

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TWO OUTS, HUH?

AHH.

STRIKE! BATTER OUT!

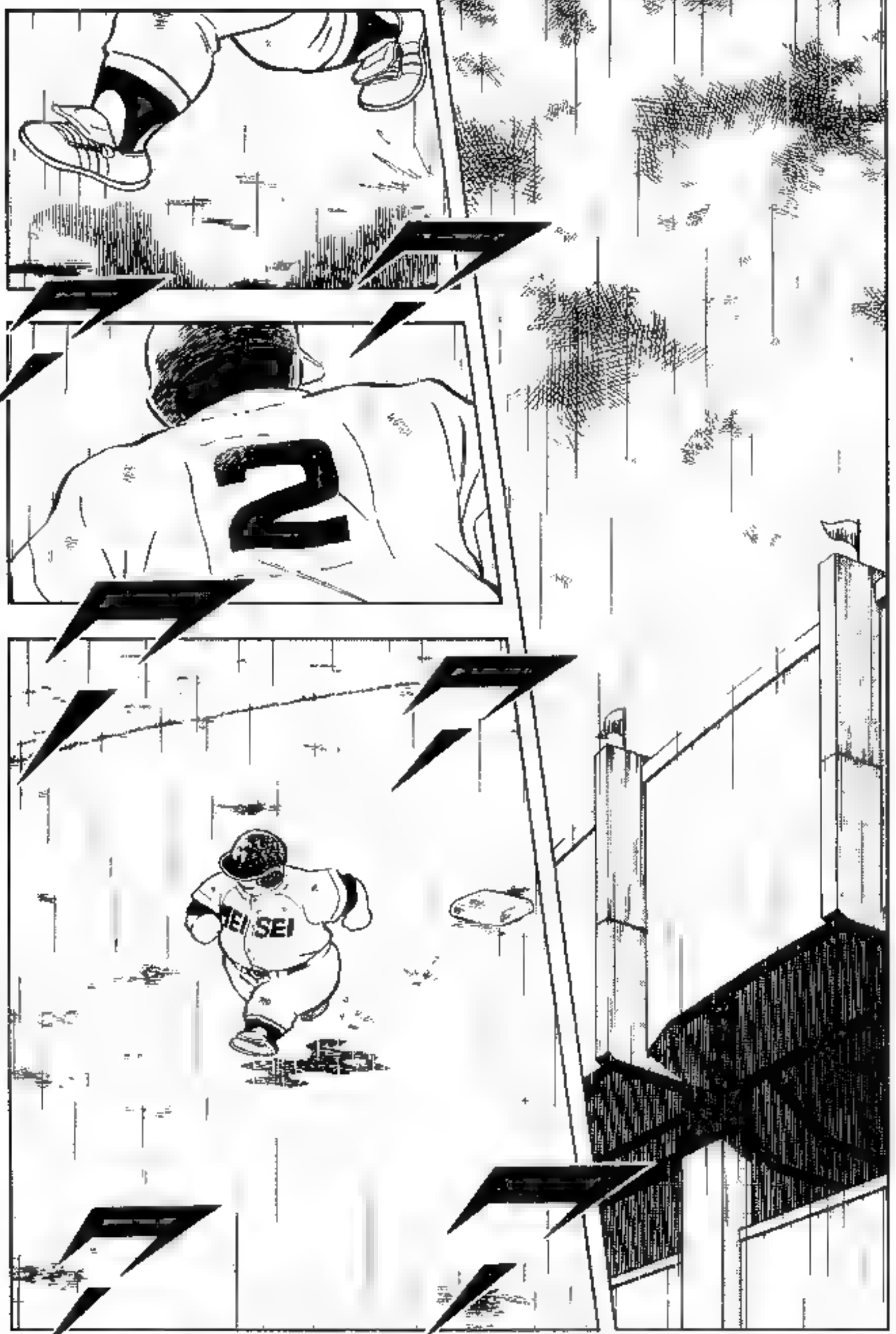
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, KOUTA-SROU!!

WHAT'S WRONG, HESUGI...?

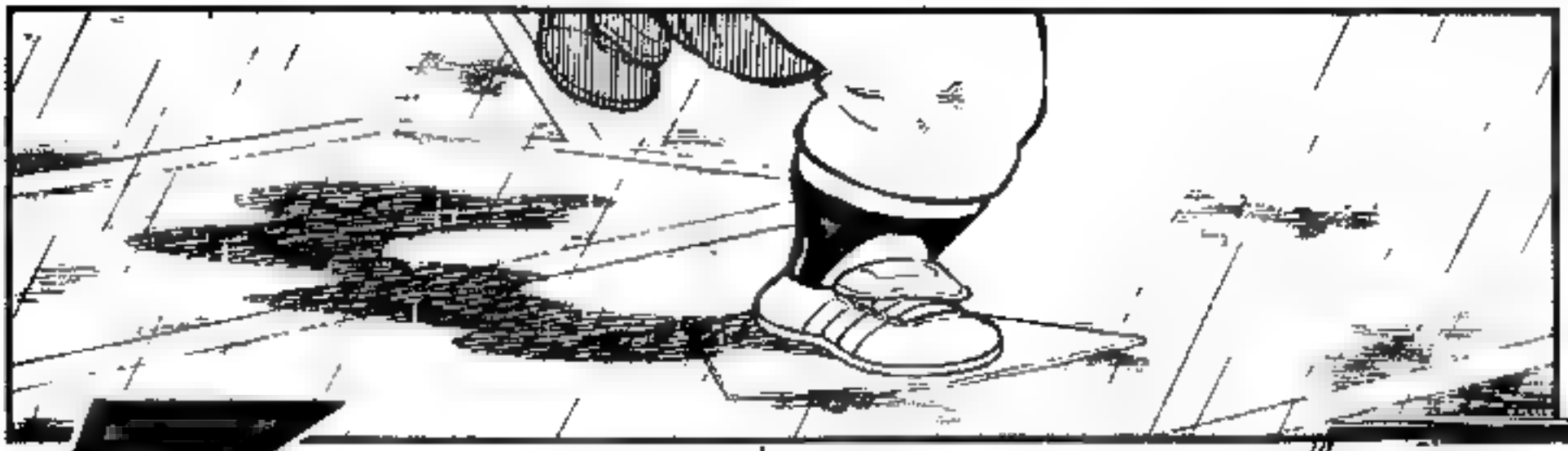
SFX: <CLINNNK>

MEI SEI

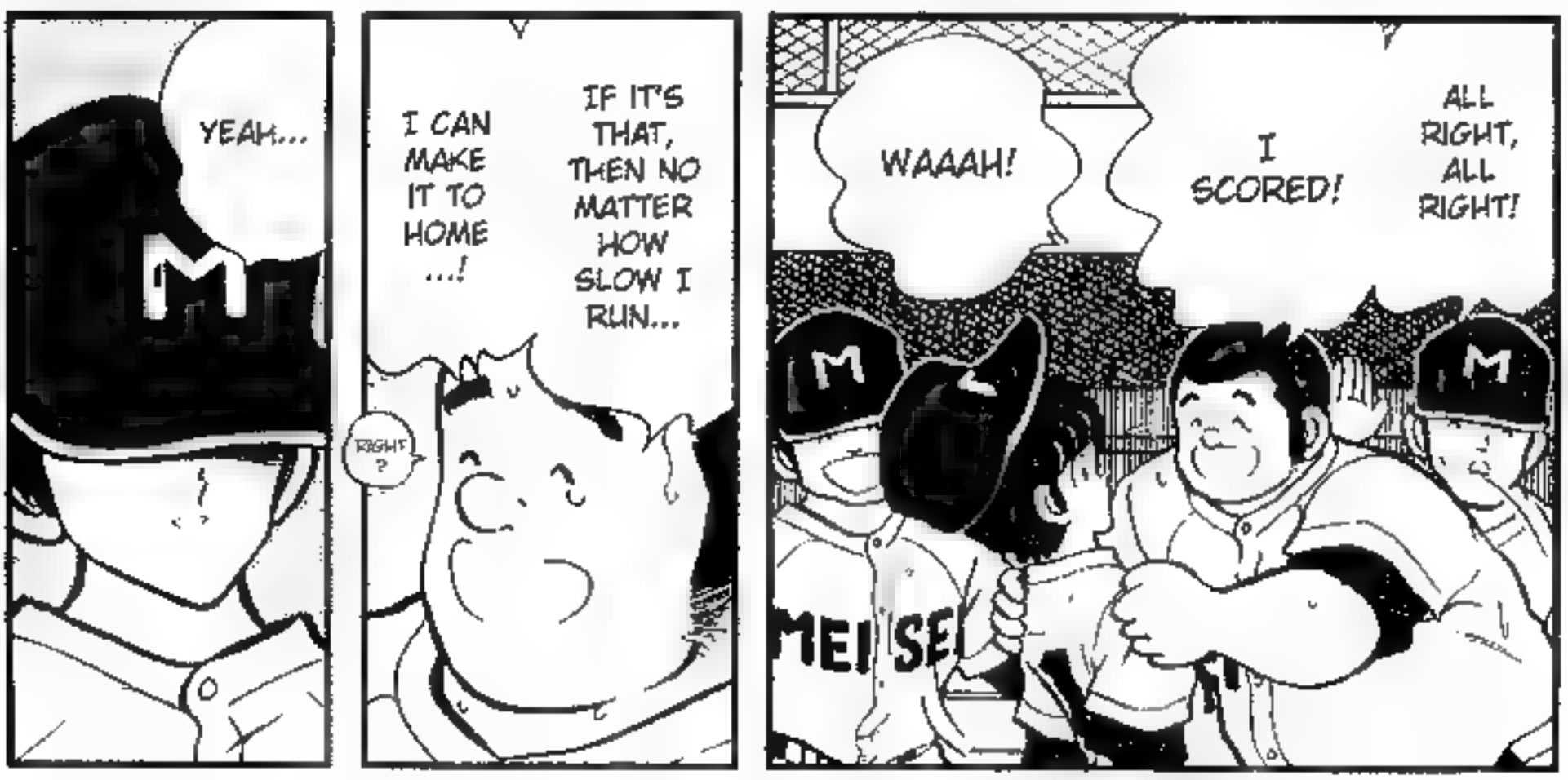
Wha-a-at?


2
SEI SEI

A TWO-RUN HOMER ...!?



MEI SEI
UESUGI-
I-I!!


YEAH...
I CAN MAKE IT TO HOME ...!
IF IT'S THAT, THEN NO MATTER HOW SLOW I RUN...
RIGHT?
WAAAH!
I SCORED!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!
MEI SEI

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RIGHT !?

NOW, WE CAN WIN, RIGHT?

ALL RIGHT, AL- RIGHT.

I REALLY DES- PERATE- LY. .

I DES- PERATE- LY .

I'M REALLY GLAD.

I'M GLAD.

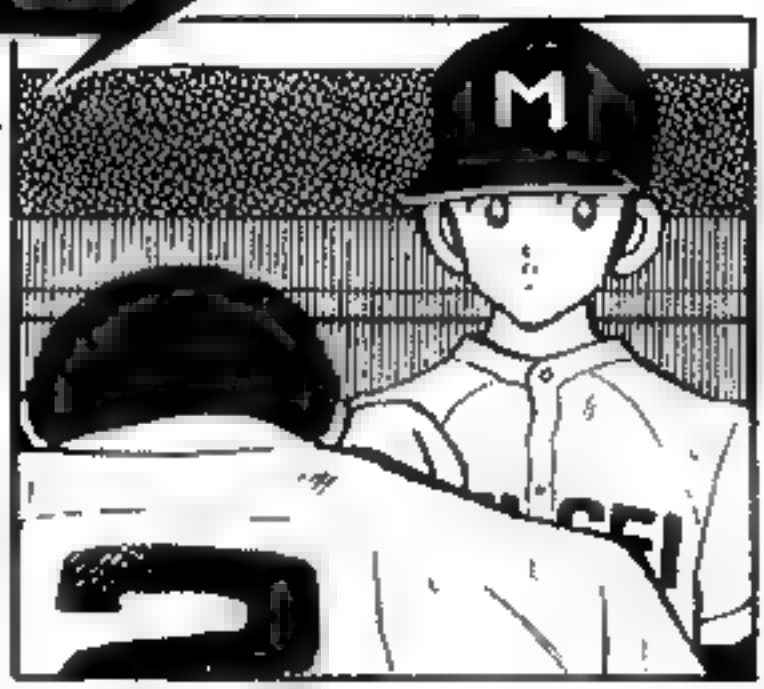
THAT WAS A BEAUTIFUL HOME RUN...

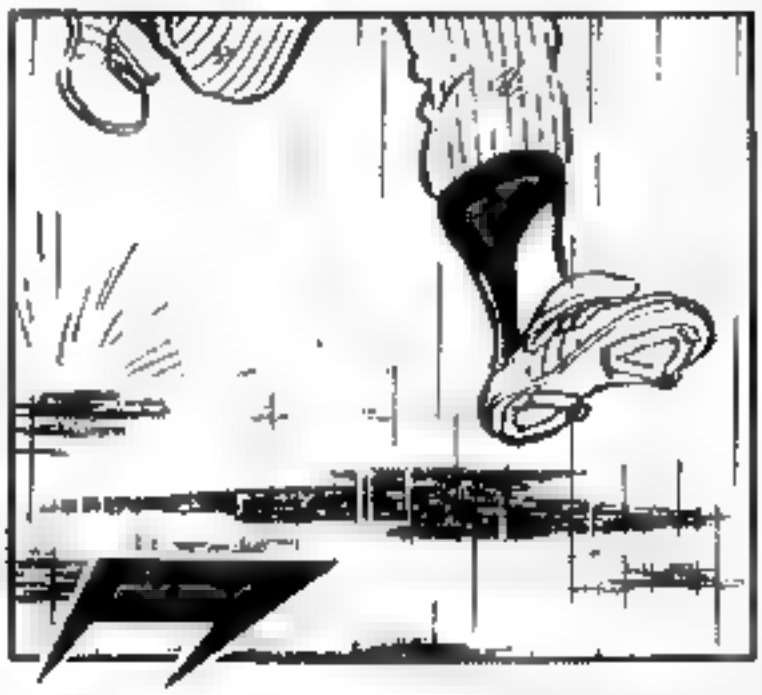
YEAH...

YES.

IKEDA.

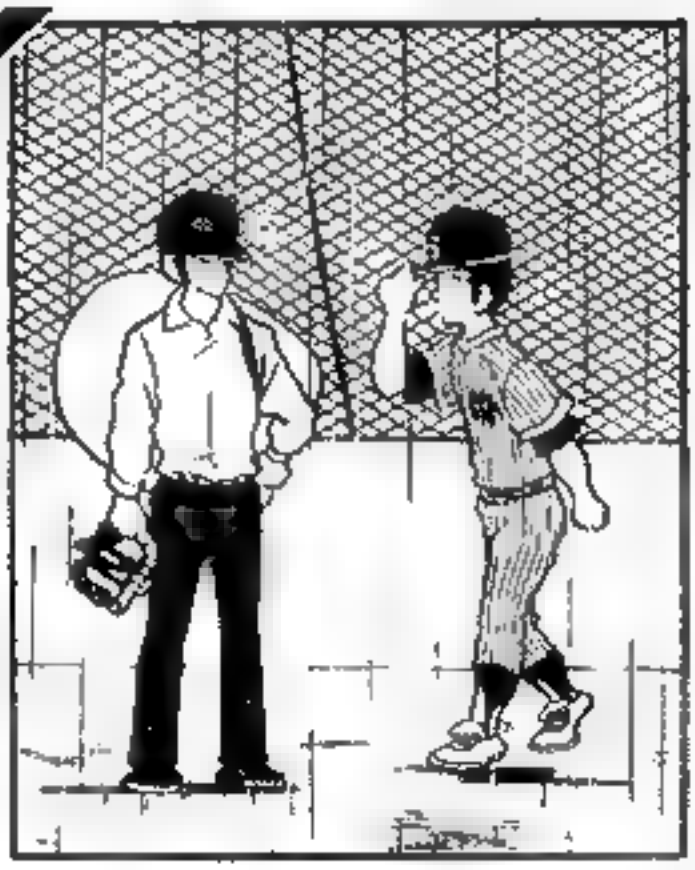
EH?


M



M

S



WHA-A-
A-AT!?

?

M

M

2

MEI SEI

SFX: <BUZZZ>

SFX: <BUZZZ>

7

7

S

THREE OUTS!

CHANGE SIDES!

SFX: <BUZZ BUZZ>

4"
7
4"
7
4"
7
4"
7

BANNER: <SEINAN>

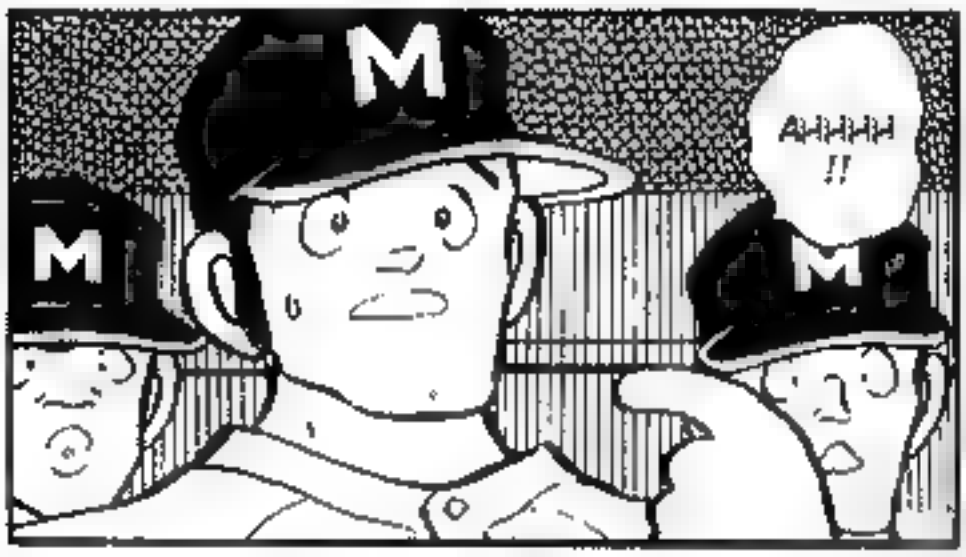
WHA?

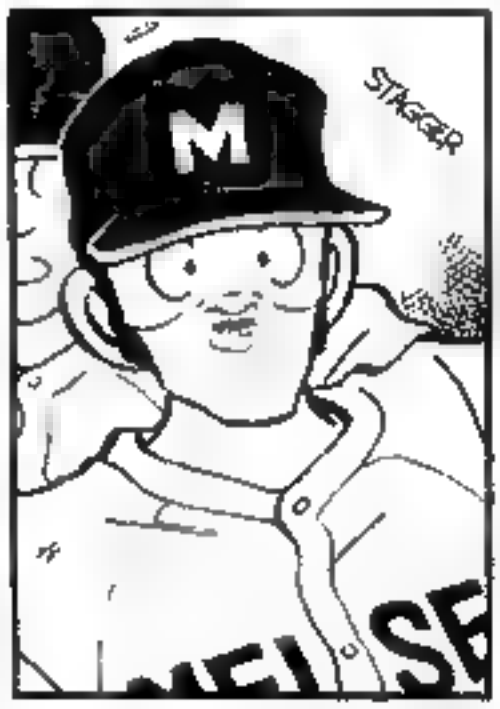
THEY MADE A MISTAKE IN THE BATTING ORDER.

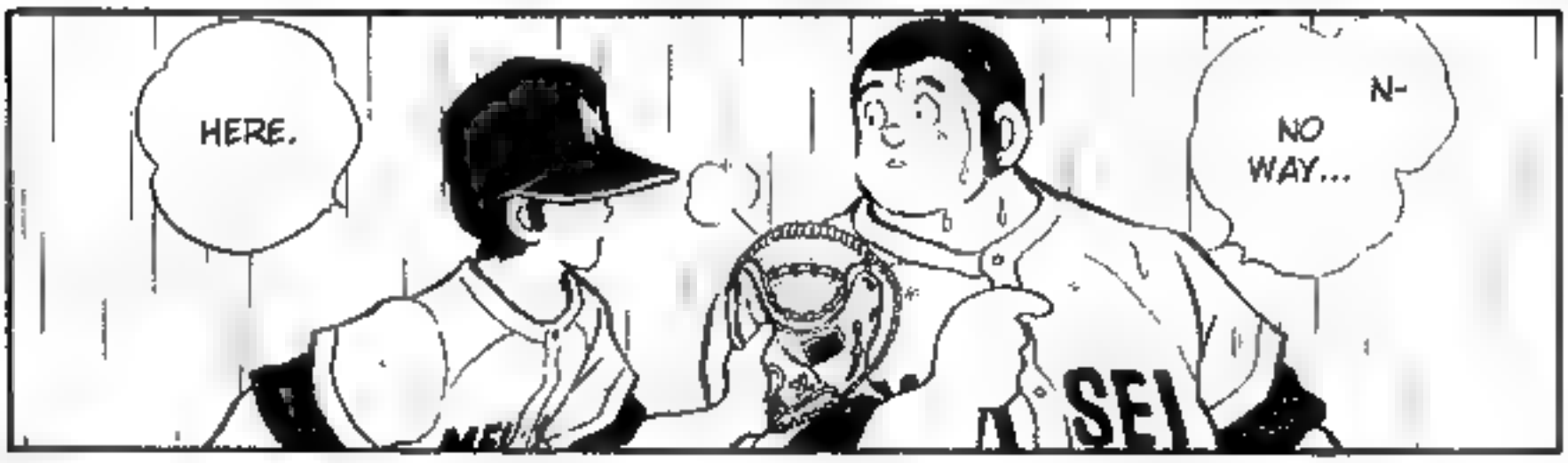
NITTA...

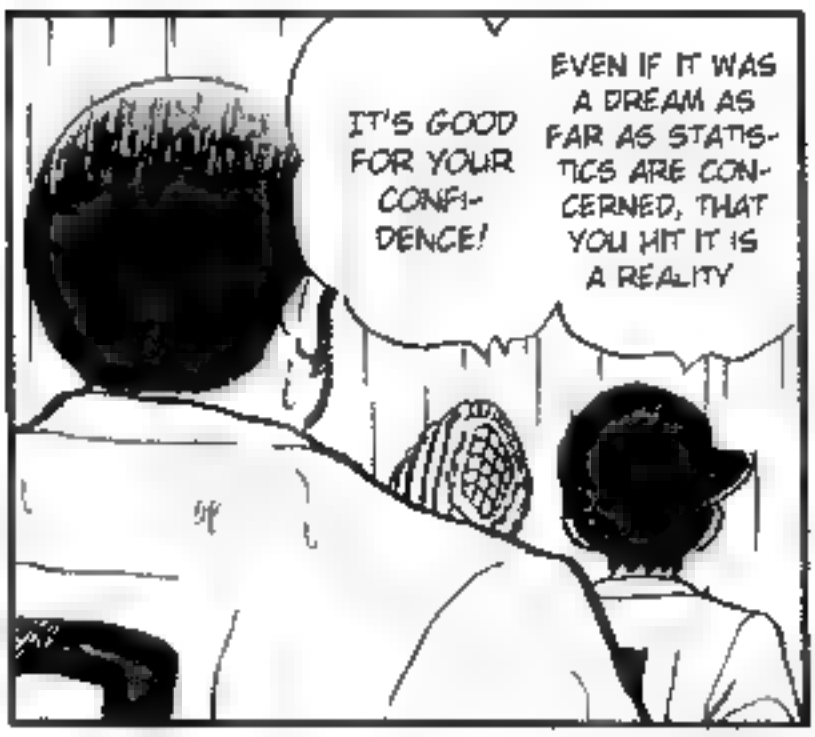
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

SCOREBOARD:
< 8 FUJIMOTO
4 ISHIGAKI
2 MATSUDAIRA
5 KUROK
9 MIHARA
1 JESUGI
6 OKAWARA>









BESIDES, YOU AREN'T THE ONE...

WHO'S MOST DISCOUR-AGED, Y'KNOW?

MEI SEI

MEI

WE STILL HAVEN'T LOST!!

WHAT'S WITH THE FACES?

R-

RIGHT.

MEI SE

PLAY A STRONG DEFENSE FOR HIM.

SPLASH SPLASH

SFX: <WHAM>

MM.

SFX: <THUD>

BALL FOUR!

STILL NO HITS

HIS SPEED HASN'T DROPPED AT ALL.

WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY

OOO

CLINK

SFX: <SPLASH>

OUT!

EEE

ALL RIGHT.

IT LOOKS LIKE THE SHOCK OF THE 2 IMAGINARY RUNS IS GONE, HM?

FEEL RESPONSIBLE ...

WHO MADE THE MISTAKE IN THE BATTING ORDER, AND ISHIGAKI-SAN, WHO DIDN'T NOTICE IT

FOR THE SAKE OF NOT LETTING THOSE TWO... KOUTA-ROU-KUN...

TATCHAN IS SHOWING STRENGTH, ISN'T HE?

PRE-CISELY AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

HIT AND RUN!

SLOOSH

SEI

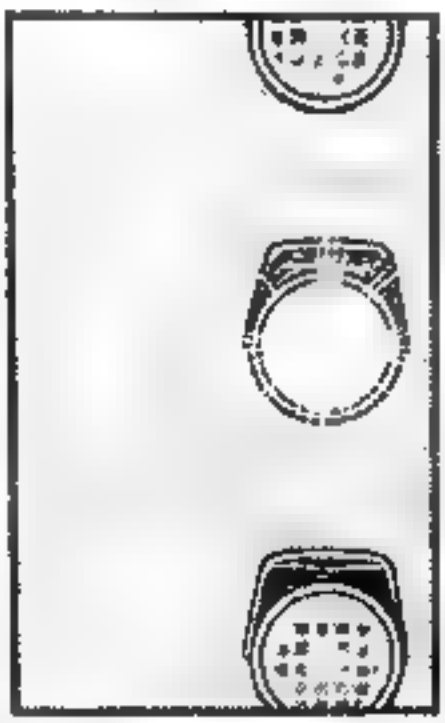
SECOND, UESUGI!

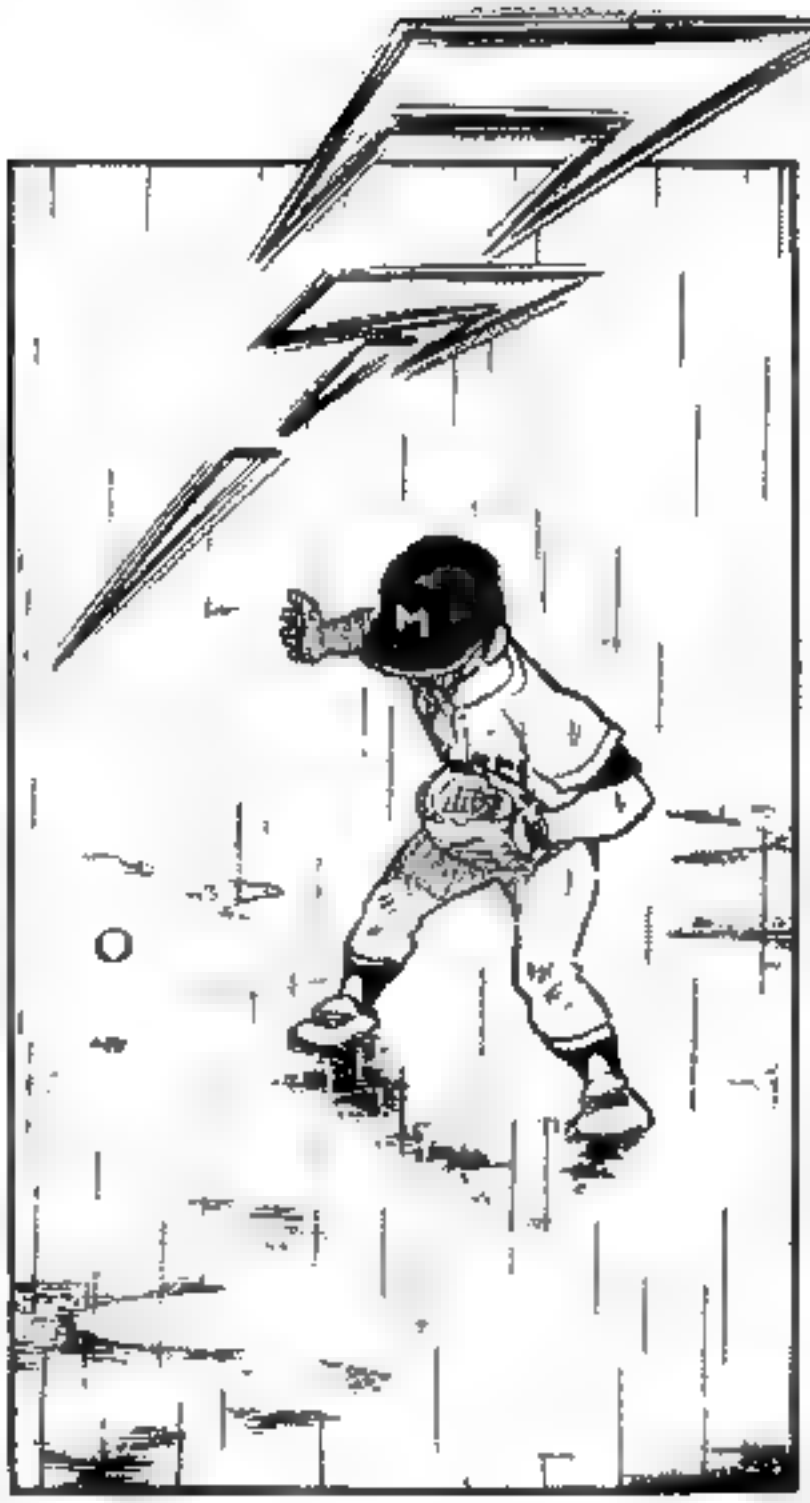
DIDN'T WORK!

'KAY.

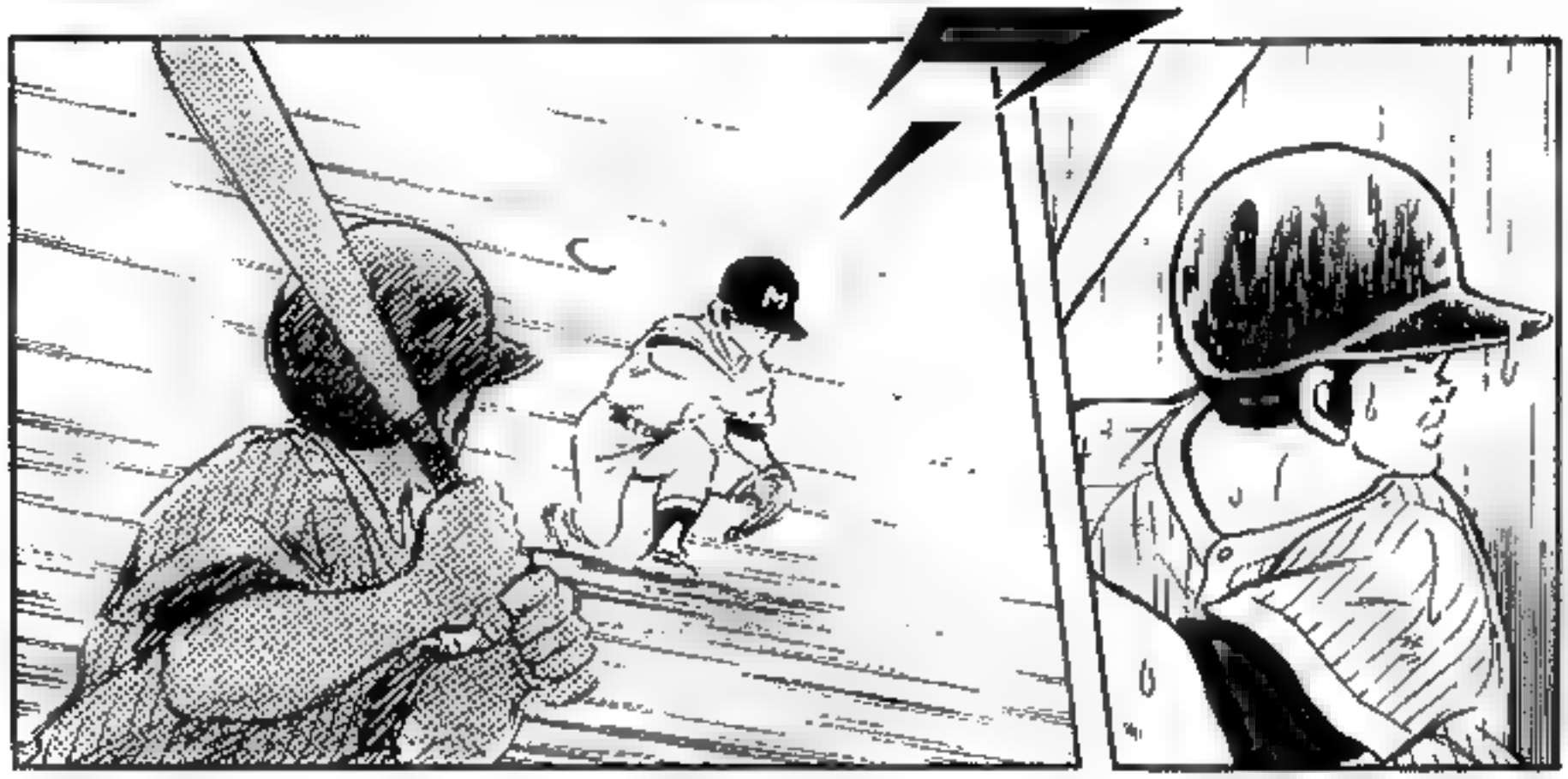
HEY, HEY.

STILL NO HITS.





IF WE GET ONE, IT'S ALL OVER!
ONE RUN IS ENOUGH!



SFX: <TOCK!>

IT WAS A PRETTY WEAK HIT BUT THE COURSE OF THE BALL IS GOOD!

GO THROUGH!

SFX: <SPLASH!>

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OUT!

YOU JERK.

ISHIGAKI-SAN, WHO HAD HIS TURN AT BAT SKIPPED.

THANKS.

R-

RIGHT!

OKABE, GET ME MY TURN AT BAT!

RUMMMBLE...

THE RAIN'S GROWN HEAVY...

HURRY HOME.

M

HIT BATTER!

TITLE: <I'LL HIT IT AND GET IT OVER WITH>

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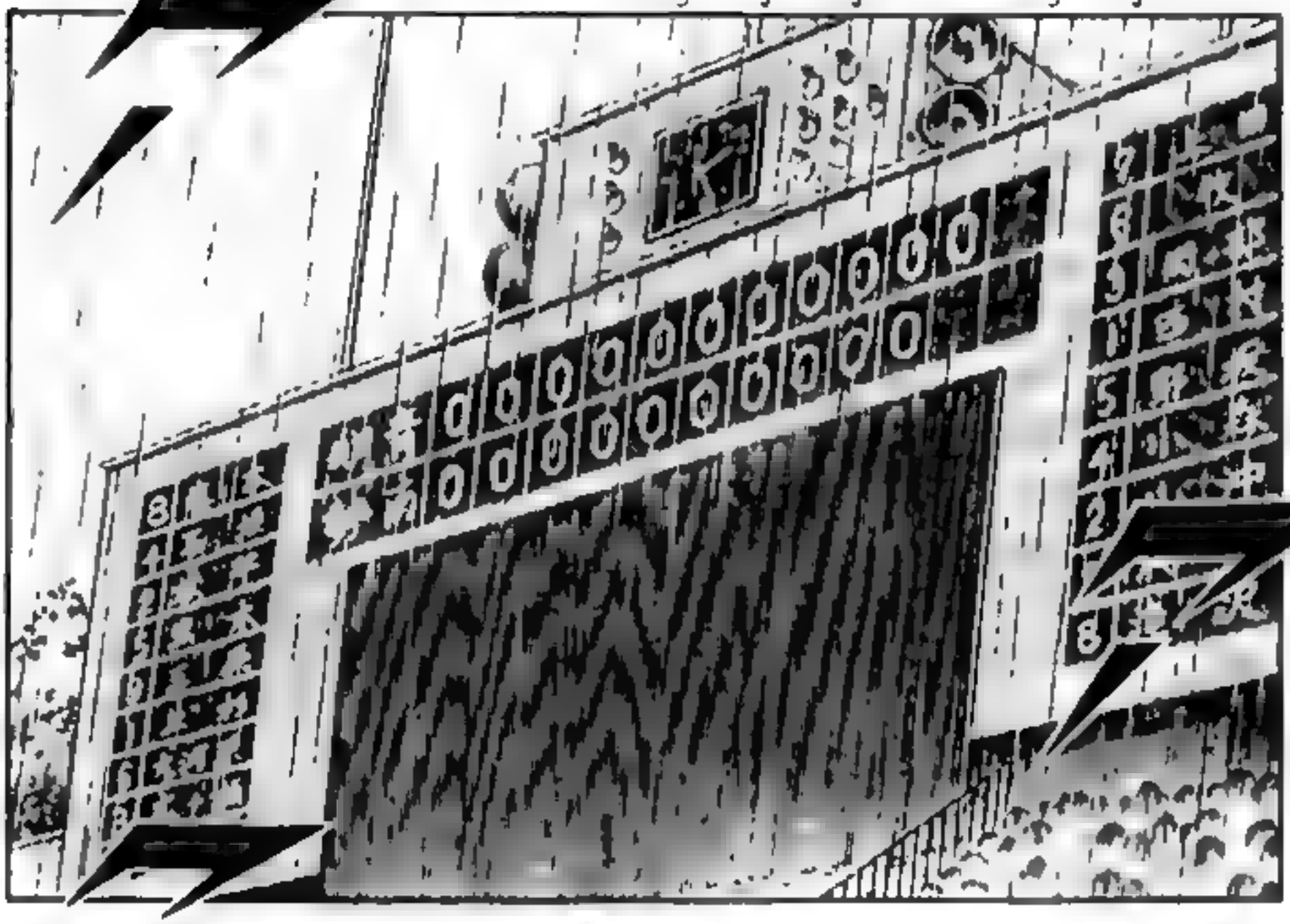
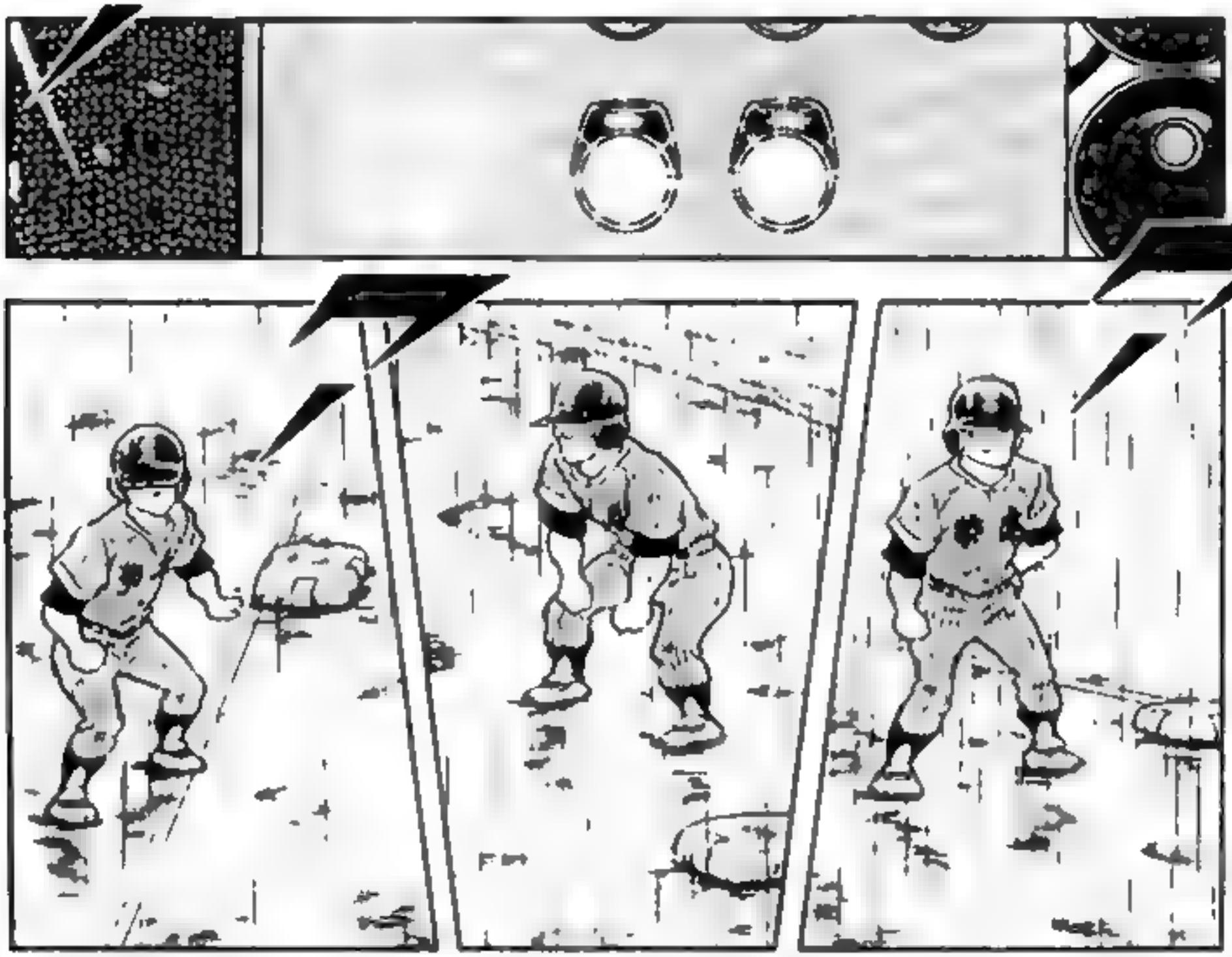




BATTING CLEANUP, THE PITCHER, NISHIMURA-KUN!

AHHH.

SFX: <SPLASH SPLASH>

IF IT STAYS THIS WAY AND A RUN ISN'T SCORED...

REPLAY THE GAME?

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP PLAYING BEYOND THIS.

THIS INNING IS IT, HUH...

YES.

KLONK

THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU.

HOW WEAK-HEARTED..

COULDN'T THEY STOP THE GAME RIGHT HERE?

DON'T MAKE A PASSED BALL.

CLENCH

I'LL PUT THIS NO-HITTER TO AN END, 'CAUSE I CAN'T STAND IT...

I'LL HIT IT AND GET IT OVER WITH!

LUIGI, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!!

BALL!

SFX: <THUD>

MEI SEI

HE HAS NO FEAR IN THIS SITUATION OF A WALK OR A HIT BATTER.

WHAT A GUY.

FOUL!

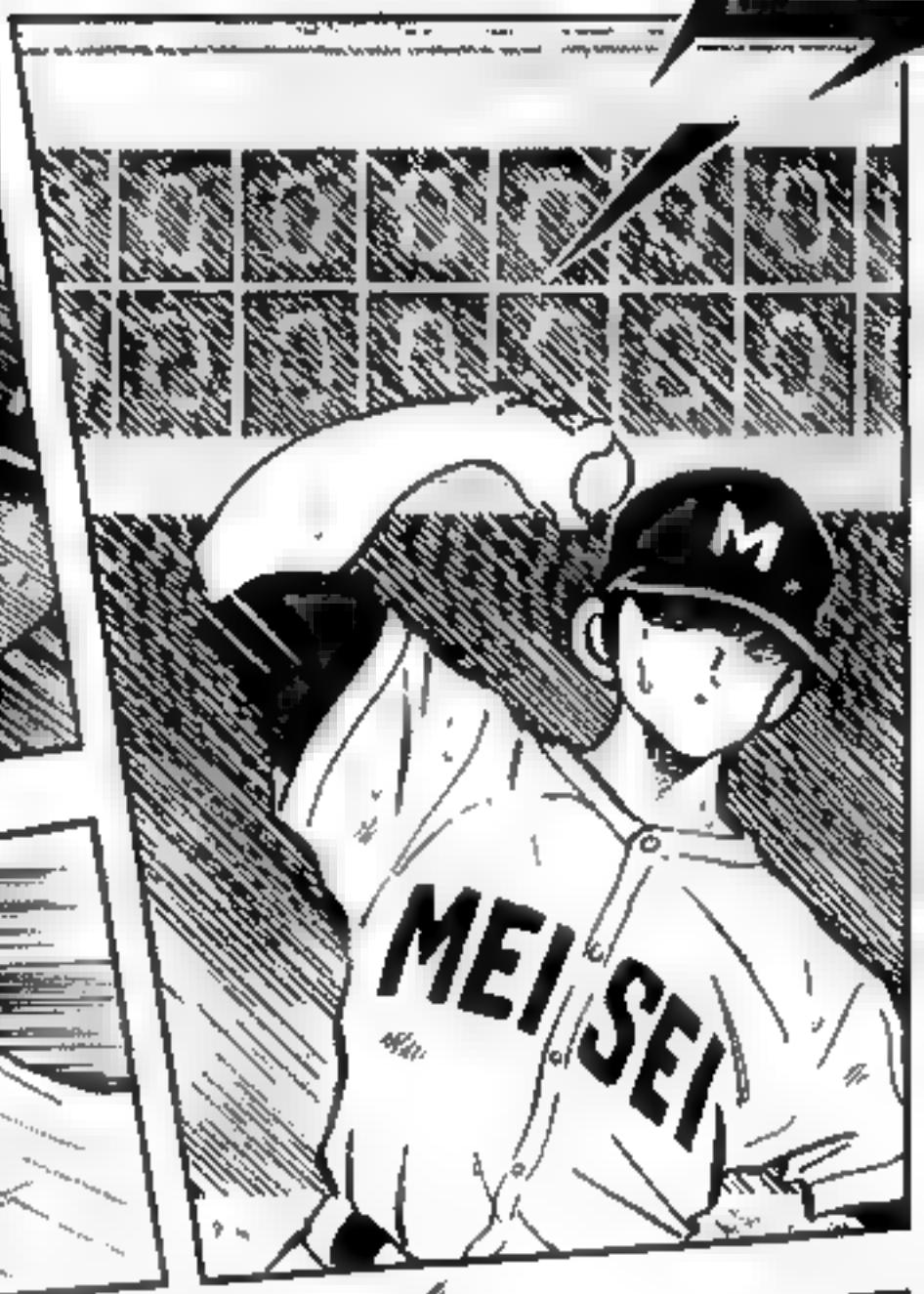
SFX (FLASH)

NISHI-MURA-A-A!!

CROWD: AHHHH!

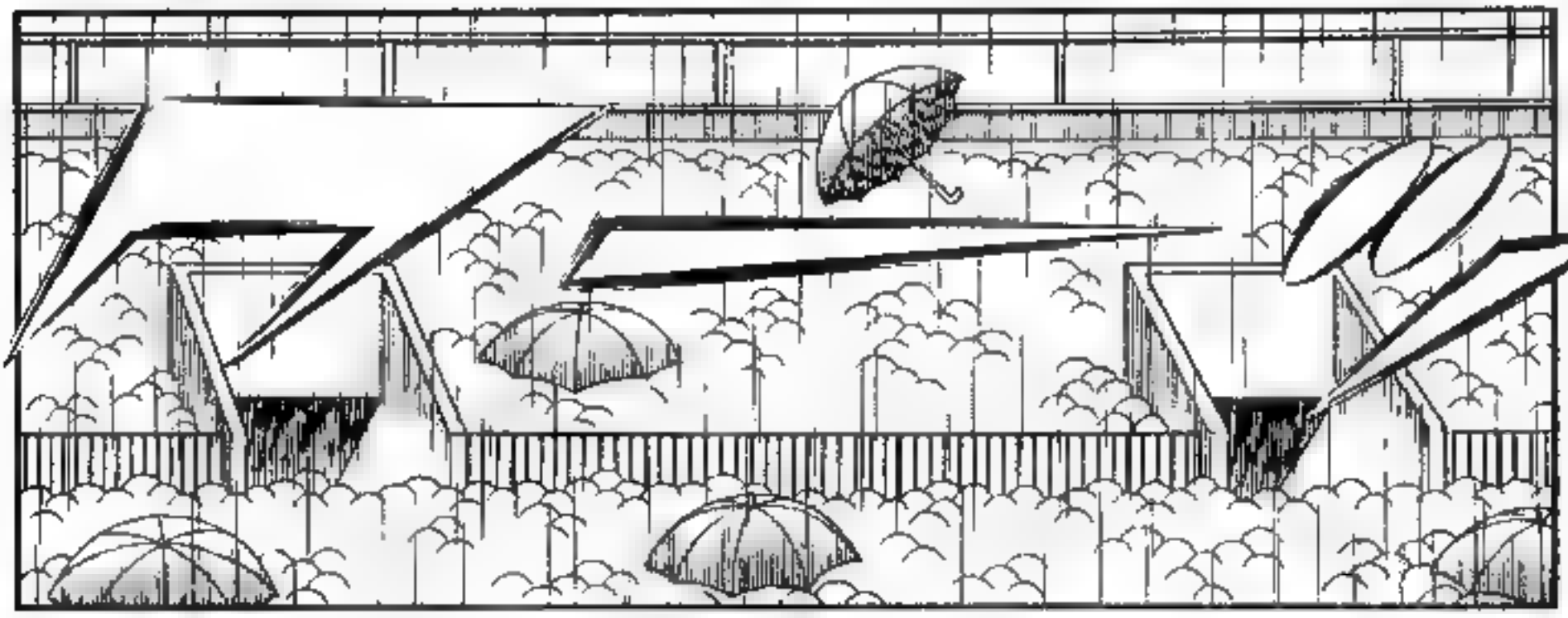
SFX: <WHAP!>

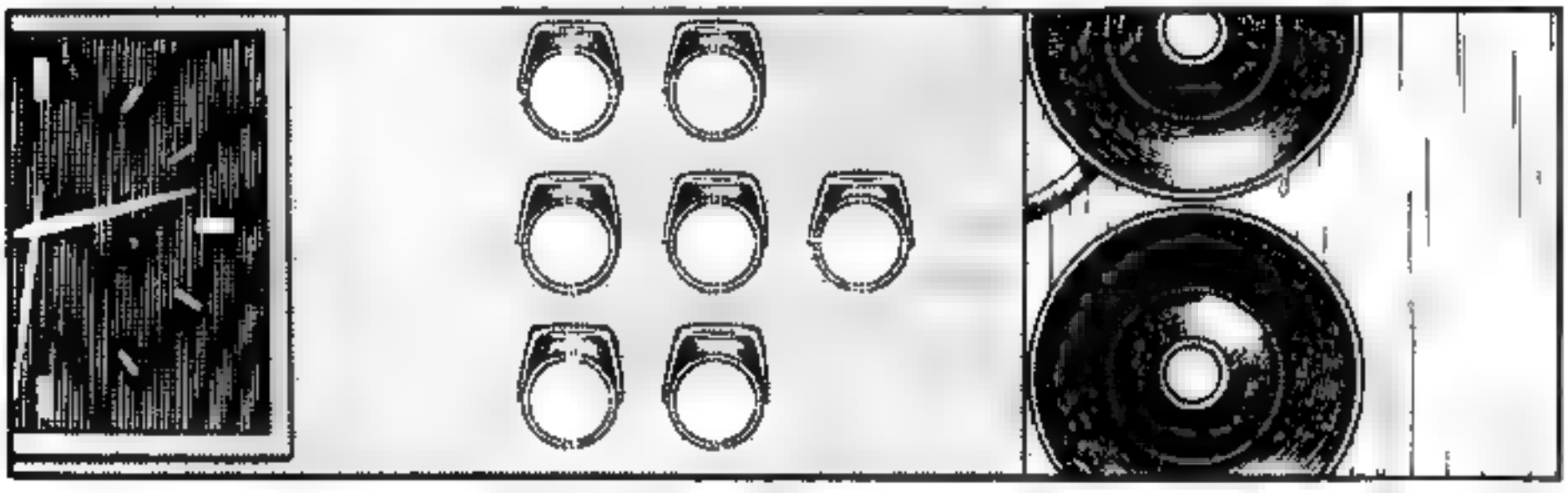
BALL!



SFX: THUD-D-D-D?

BALL!





S
S
M
M
M
MEI
SEI
SFX: <SPLISHHH>
M
MEI
SEI

SFX (TICK!)

FOUL!

IT'S NISHI-MURA'S PRIDE...

THAT WAS A BALL, HUH...

THEN NISHIMURA WOULDN'T HAVE SWUNG AT IT...

IF THEY'D GOTTEN A SINGLE HIT UP TO THIS POINT ...

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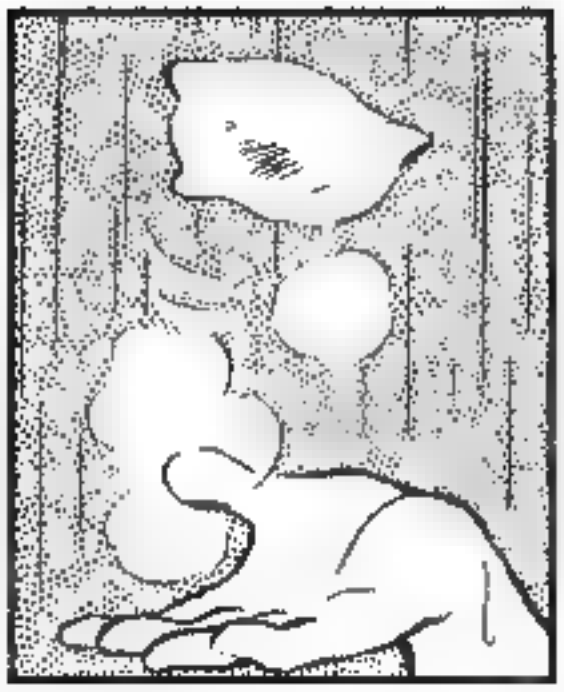
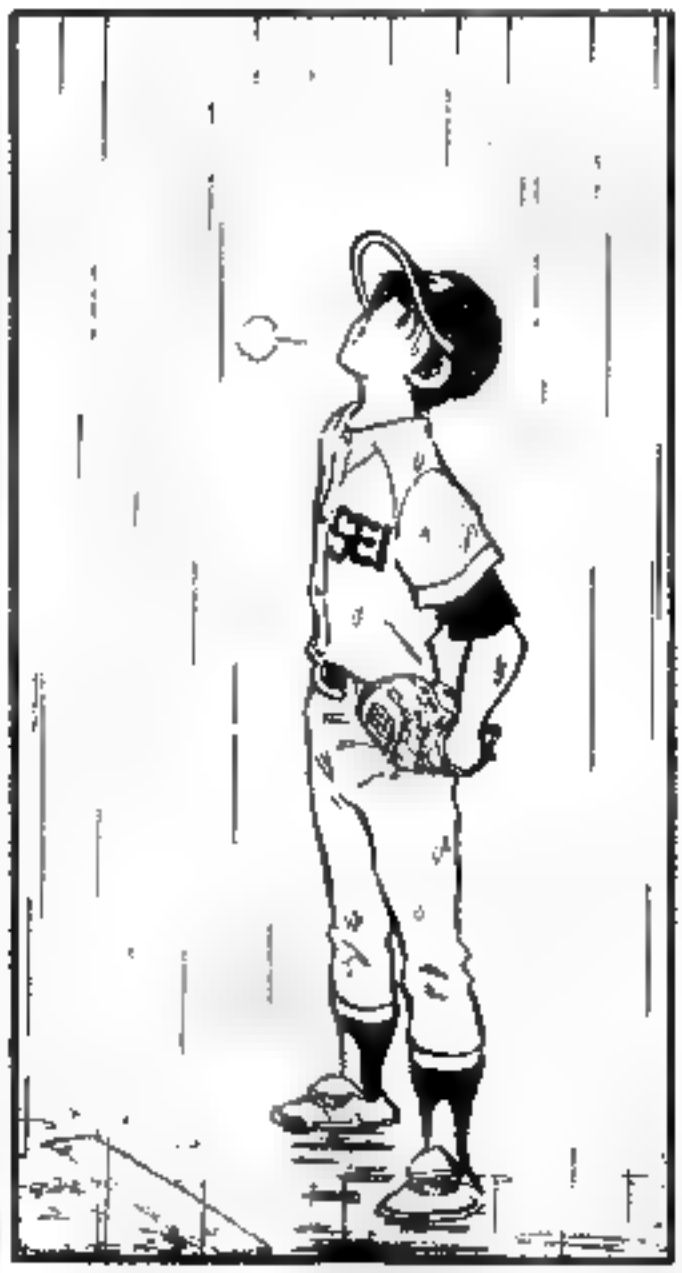
SFX. <CLINK>

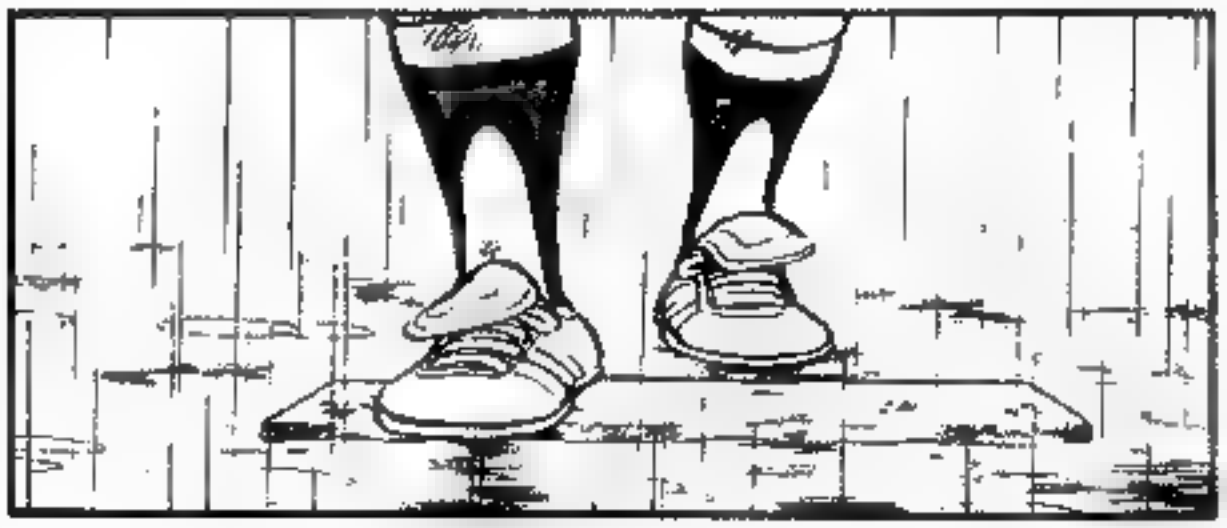
FOUL!

SE

MEI

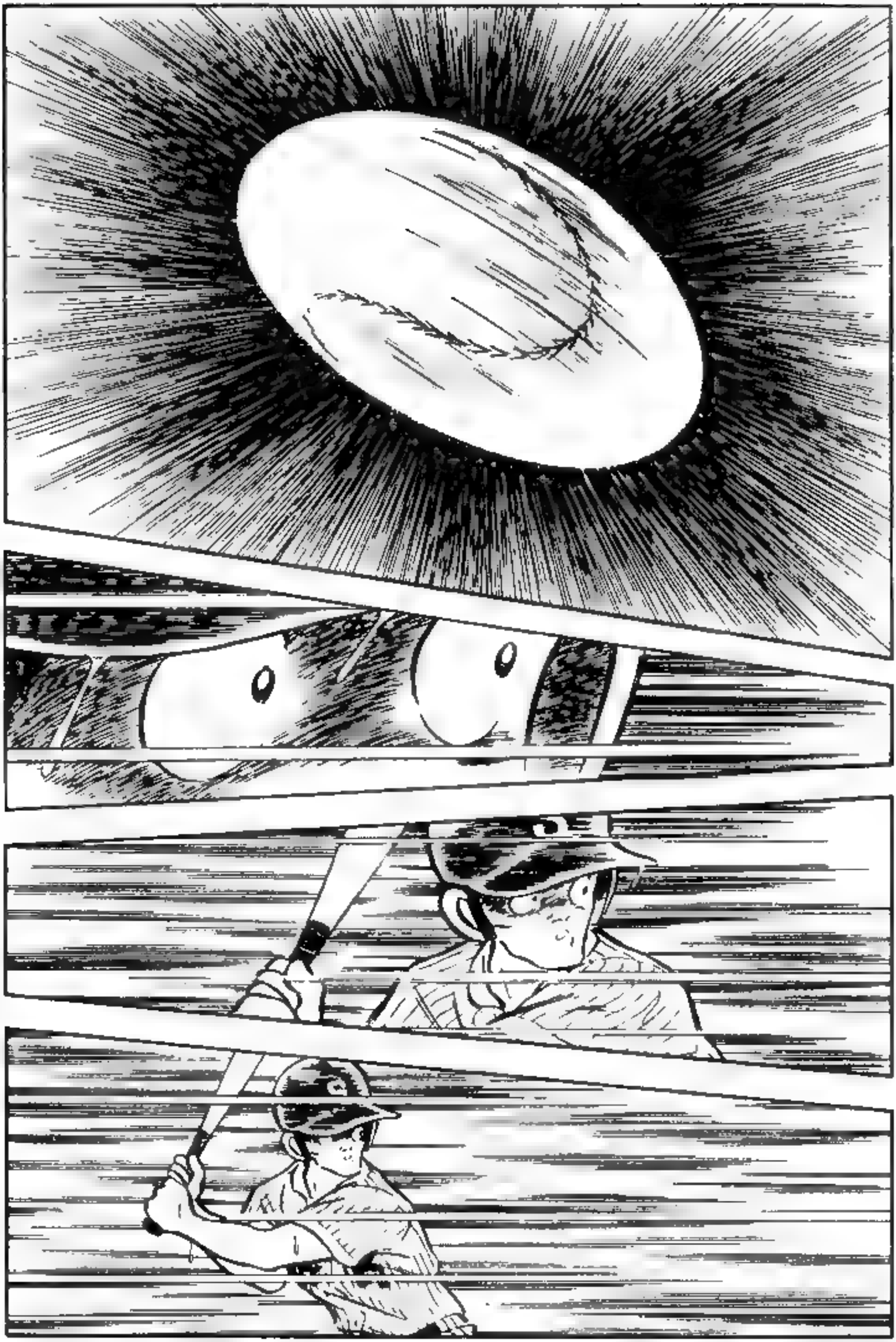






THE HIGH PITCH THAT NISHIMURA LOVES !!

I'LL HIT IT AND GET IT OVER WITH!



BALL!

SFX <SPLISHHH>

BALL FOUR!

カラン

GAME OVER!

Love is touch

MINAMI

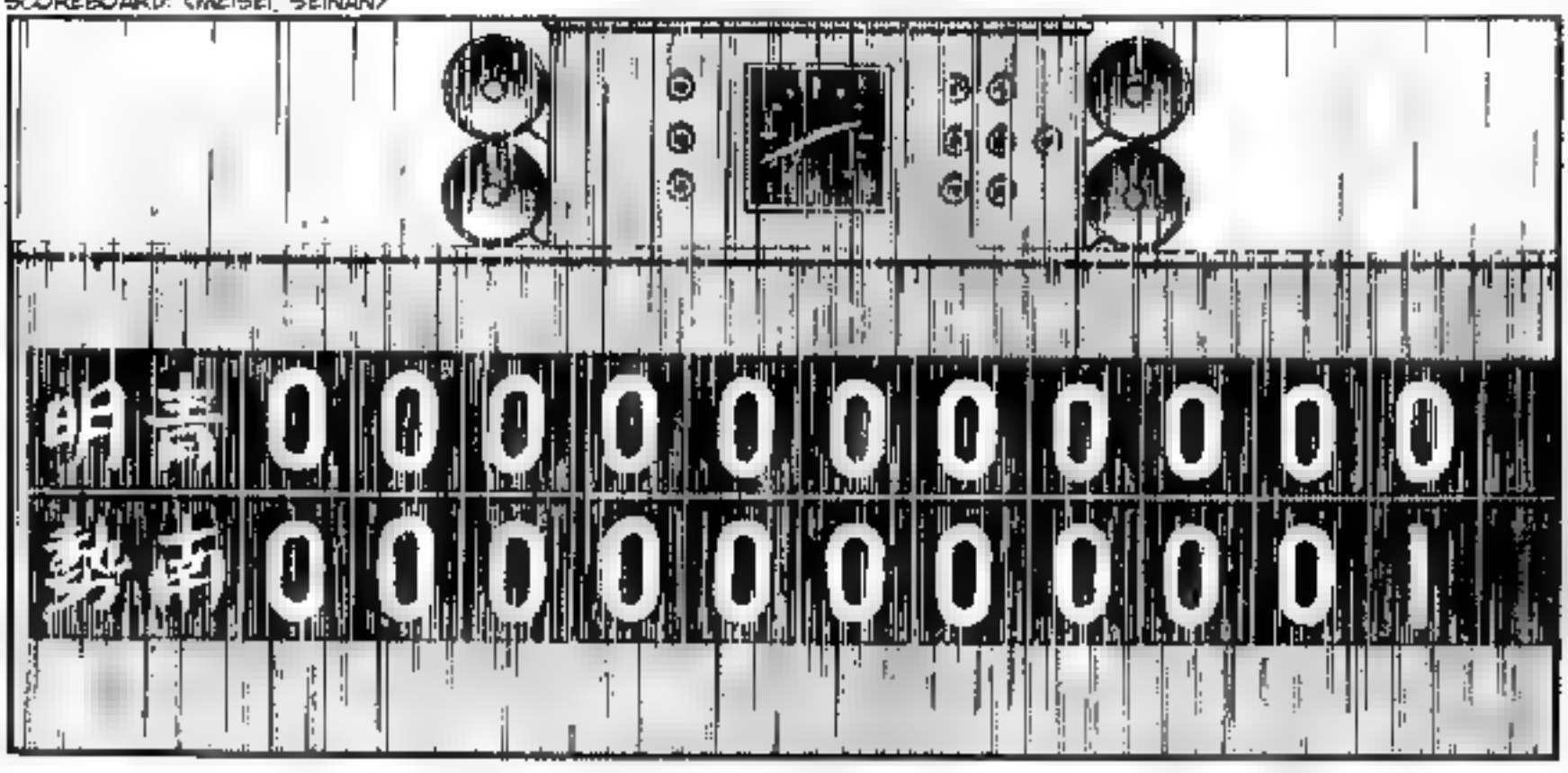
SUNDAY

負けちまった の巻

TITLE: (I LOST)

SFX: <SPLISHHHHH!>

SCOREBOARD: <MEISEI, SEINAN>



1-0!

SEINAN HIGH!

SFX: <000000000>

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TATCHAN
...

WE WON,
WE WON!

HAHAHA

NISHI-MURA!

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT ...

BANZA-A-AI!

EH?

ALL RIGHT ABOUT WHAT?

THE REAL STORY IS JUST THAT I WAS HELPLESS!

THAT HIGH PITCH IS MY STRIKE ZONE!

THAT WAS A WALK THAT FORCED IN THE RUN!?

IT'S AS NISHI-MURA SAYS

THERE'S NO WAY I CAN FEEL WE WON AT ALL!

SHIT!

SFX: <BANG>

WE DIDN'T DO A THING!!

LIESUGI ...

IT'S OVER, IT'S OVER.

HEY, HEY... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

MEI SEI

YEAH ...

I HELD THEM BACK WITH NO HITS, AS I WAS TOLD, RIGHT?

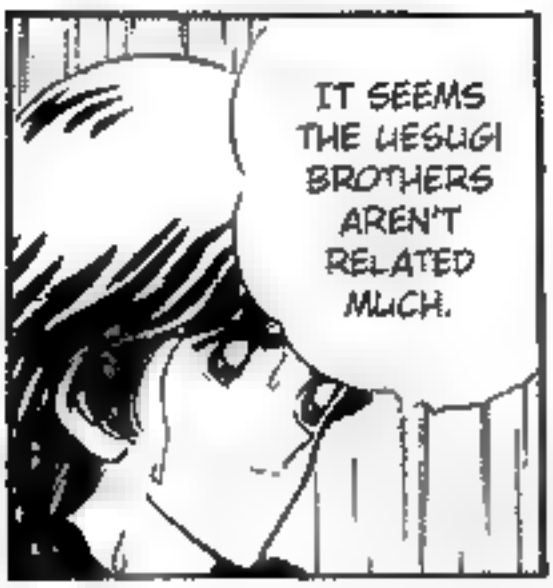
YOU DID GOOD.

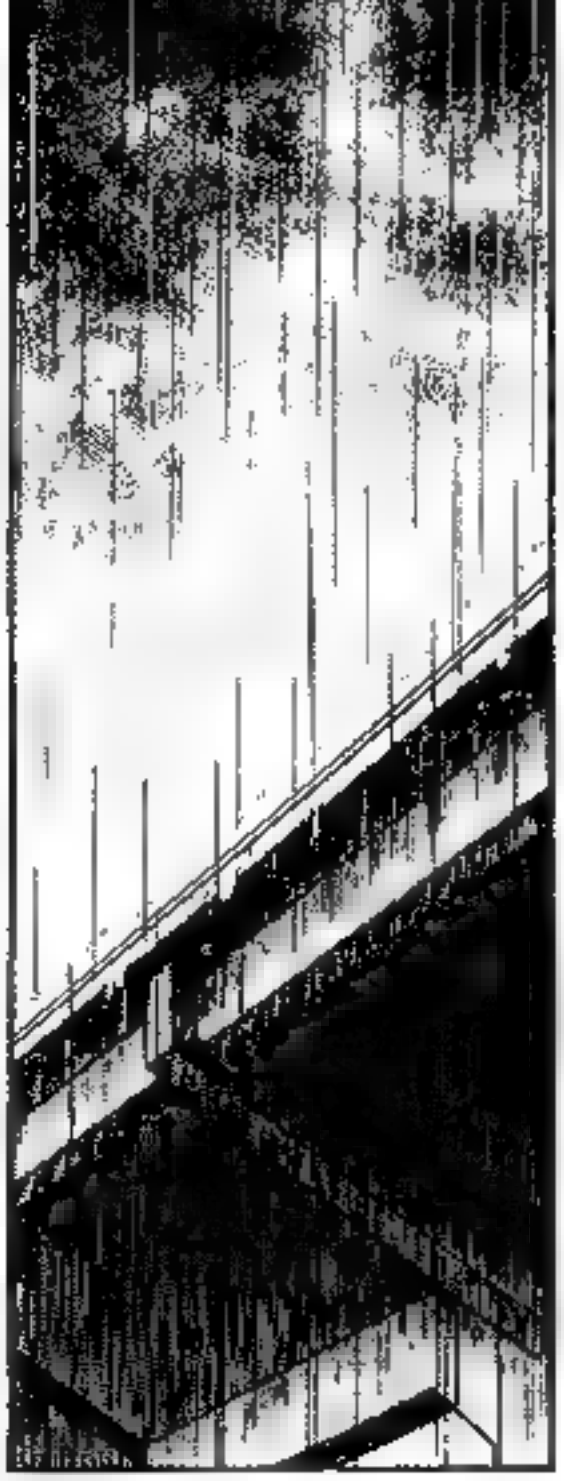
REALLY ...

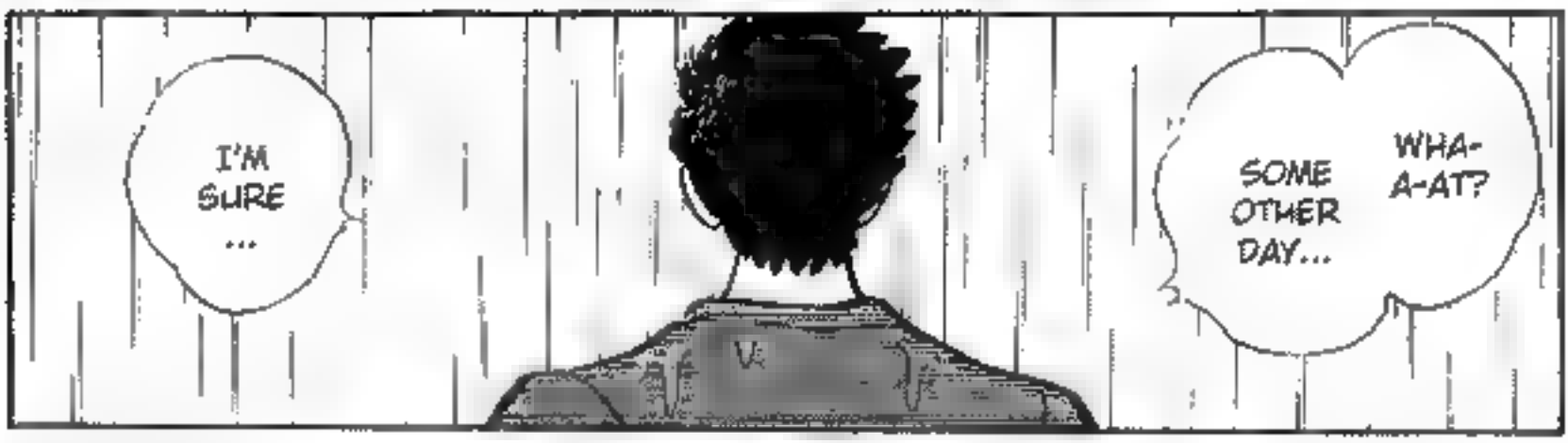
YOU DID GOOD.

WELL ...

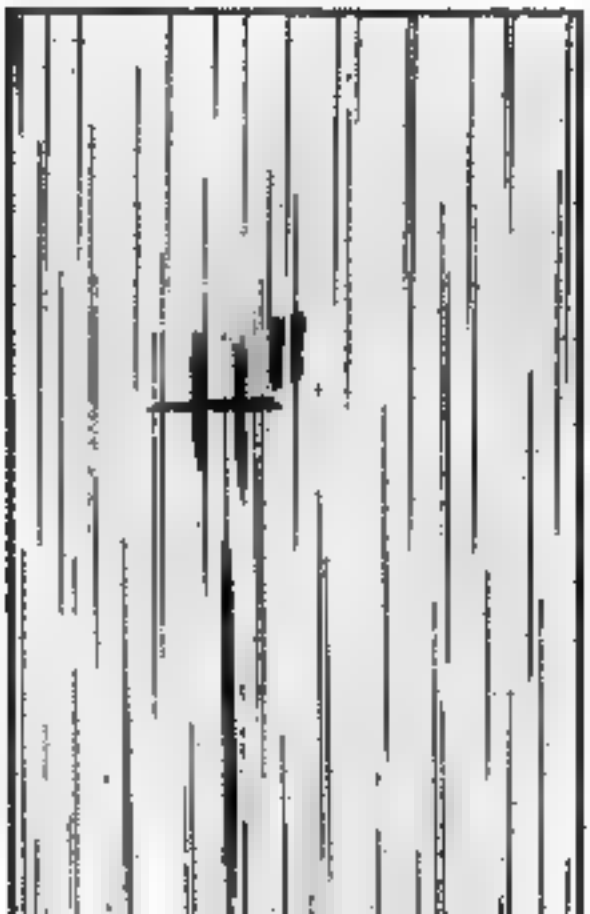
I'M GOING HOME.





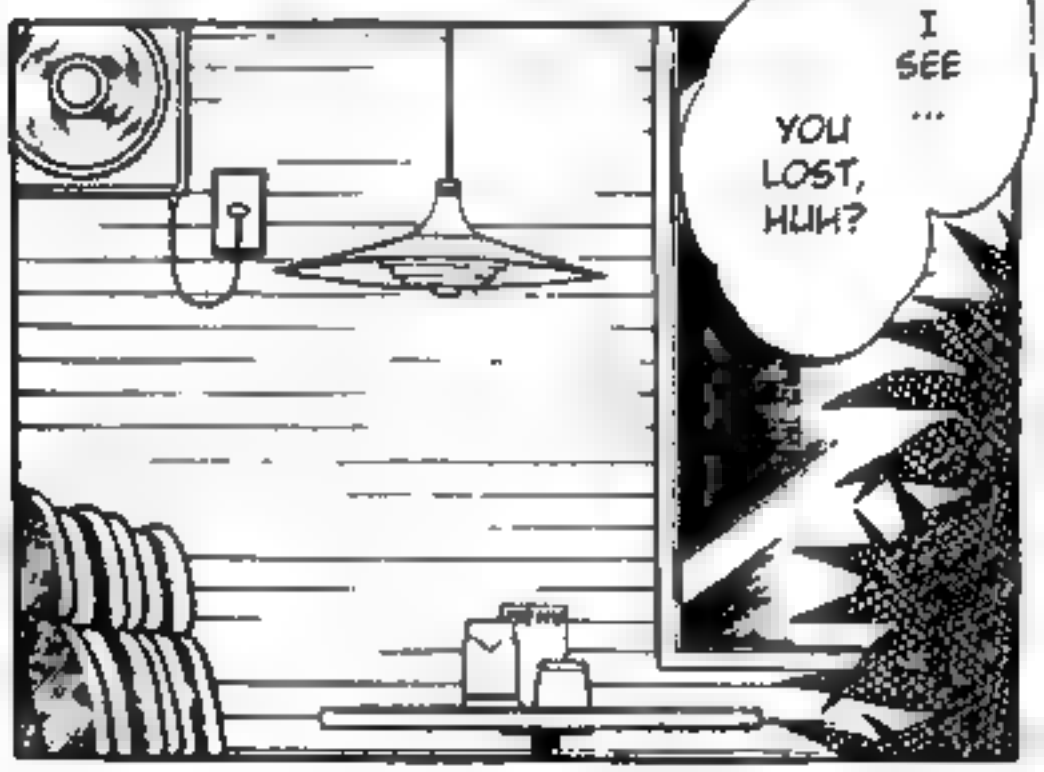


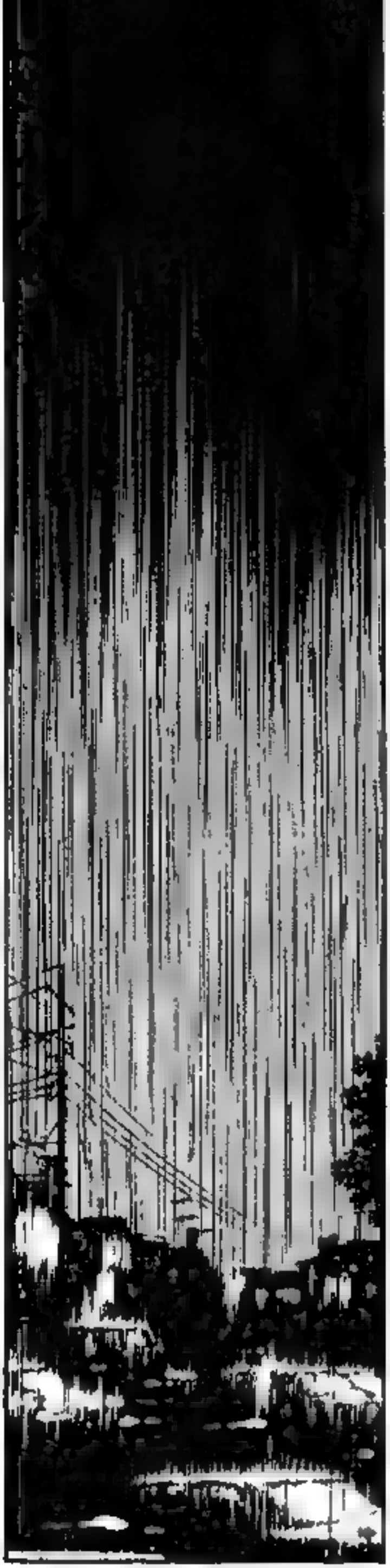
SFX: <SPLISHHHH>



AWNING: MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP

SIGN: MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP





BUT... HOW VEXING... LOSING LIKE THAT...

HERE YOU GO. THE SPAGHETTI.

HE'S PLAYING SERIOUS BASEBALL FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND HE STILL HASN'T PLAYED A FULL YEAR YET.

'CAUSE HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN FOR KATCHAN'S BIG BROTHER...

WELL, IT'S EXCUSABLE, HM?

ON TOP OF THAT, THERE'S THE HOME RUN...

WE HAD SIX HITS.

NO-HITTING THE OTHER SIDE.

RIGHT, TATCHAN?

THAT'S ..

WHY...

HOME RUN?

YOU LOST 1-0, DIDN'T YOU?

84

PLONK

HERE YOU GO. YOUR SPAGHETTI.

SWISH

CLANK

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

THUMP THUMP THUMP

SAFE

C'MON, IT'S OKAY.

WHAT'S WITH THE ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT?

WILL FOCUS ON YOU RATHER THAN THE BASEALL TEAM.

NATURALLY, THIS YEAR, THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE SCHOOL...

YOU CAN FREELY DEVOTE YOURSELF TO RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS PRACTICE!!

PREPARING YOURSELF FROM TOMORROW FOR THE INTERHIGHS..

WHAT IS?

GEH.

A DOUBLE PLAY, HUH?

OUT! OUT!

AH.

DID IT SEEM THAT WAY?

WHILE YOU WERE PITCHING ...

THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D BE WORRYING ABOUT SOME-THING LIKE THAT...

OKAY.

YOUR SPAGHETTI'S GETTING COLD.

REALLY ...

YOU PLAYED ALL-OUT, TATCHAN.

I'M SORRY

BUT YOU BEAT THE TOURN-AMENT'S BEST PITCHER...

WE LOST THE GAME ...

YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR FIRST YEAR, RIGHT?

IT'S TRUE, HM...

UH-HUH.

WE HAVE TO TAKE THE LONG VIEW.

UH-HUH.

AND IMPROVE YOUR CONTROL ...

IF YOU GO AND BUILD UP EXPERI-ENCE ...

BUT THERE'S ALSO NEXT YEAR FOR YOU, TATCHAN, HM?

IT'S TOO BAD FOR KUROKI-SAN AND THE OTHERS ..

CRACK

SFX: <WHAM>

K"!

LC

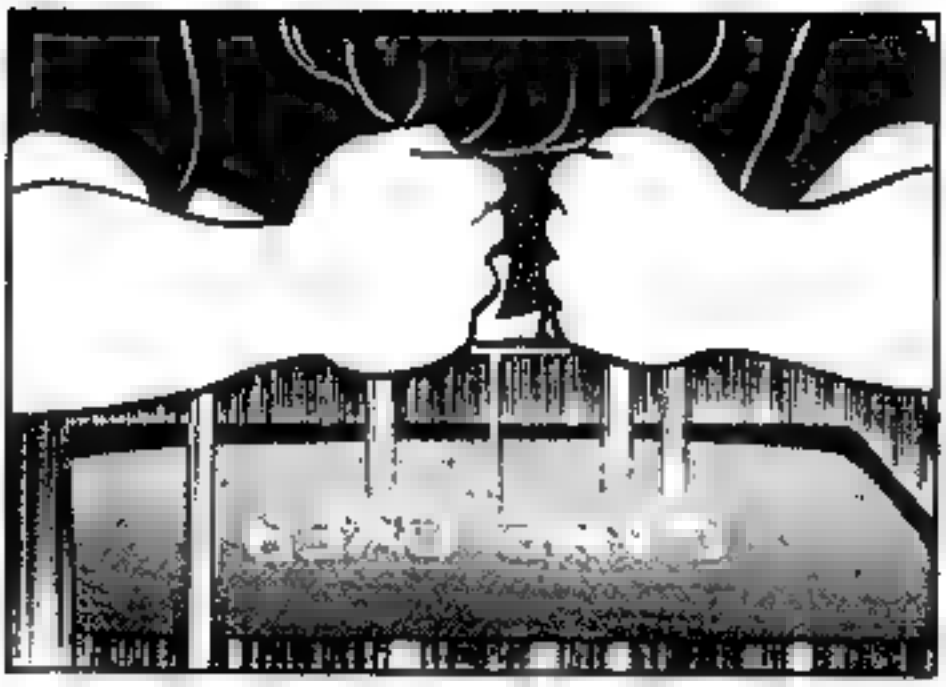
THUMP THUMP THUMP

HOME RUN

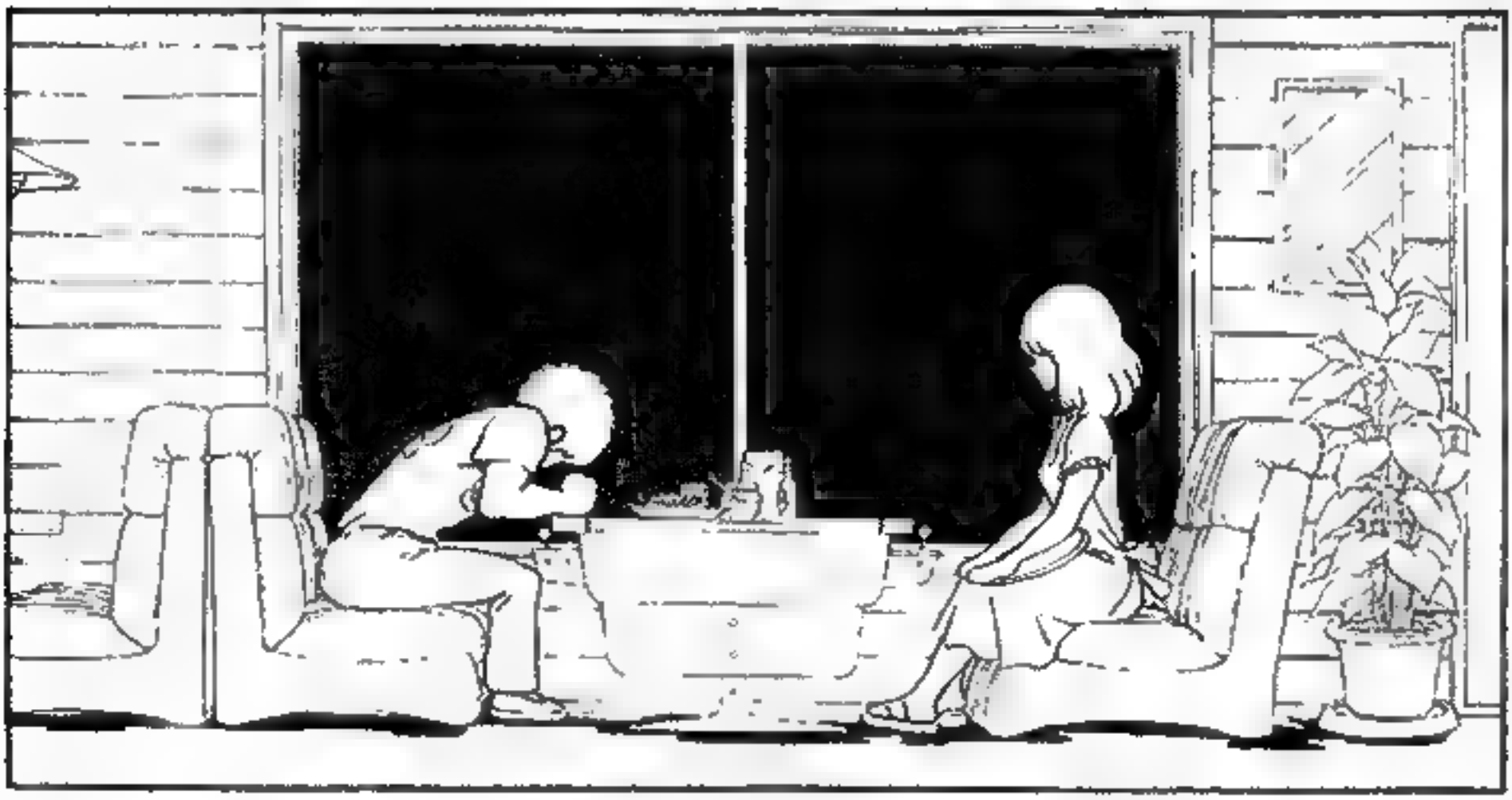
SHIT...

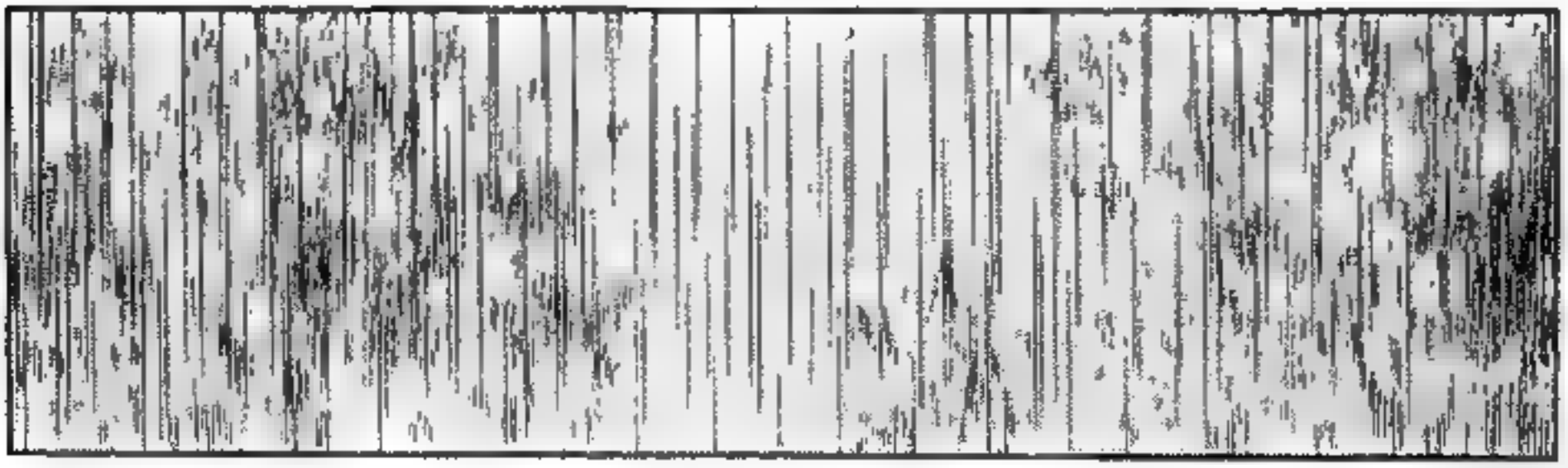
I LOST ...

AHH-AH.

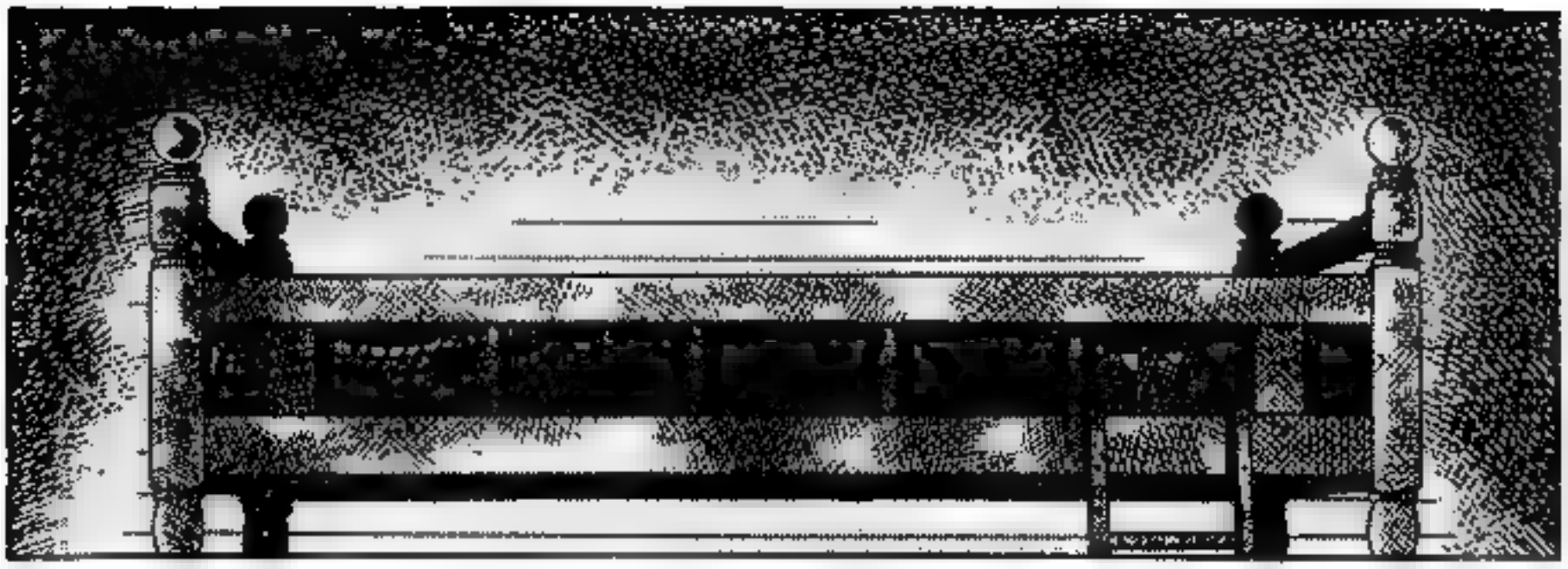


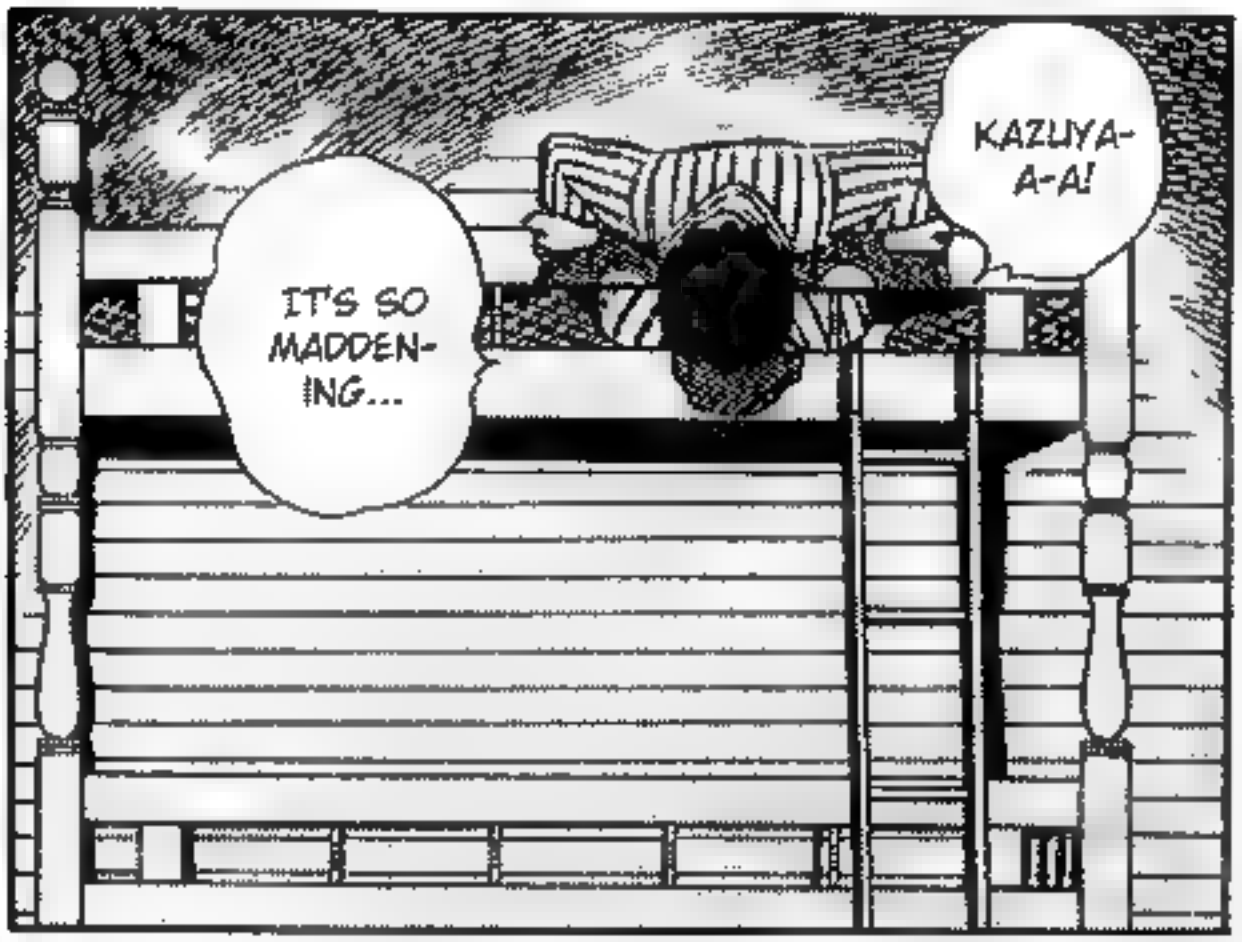
TATCHAN...





BALL!





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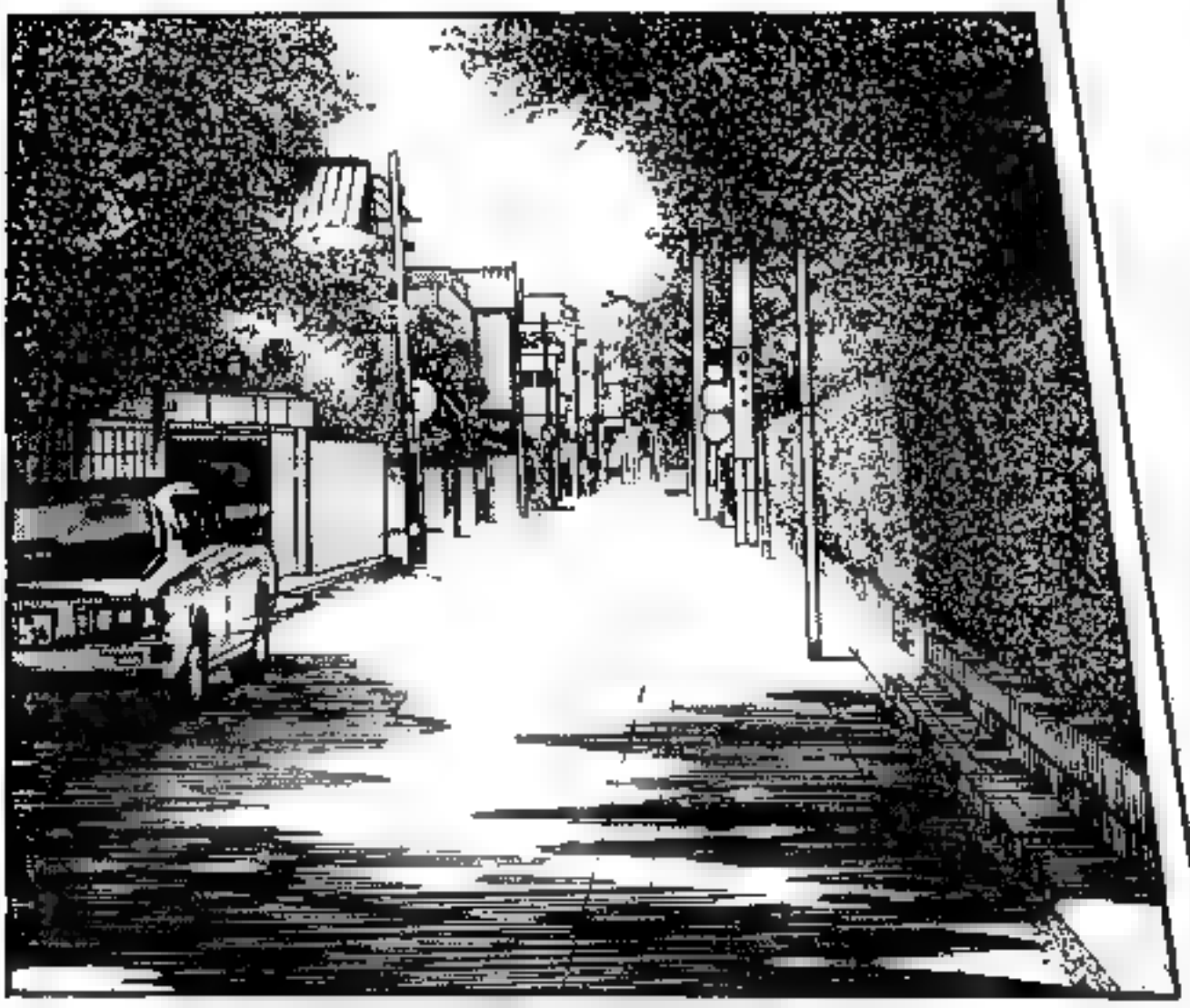
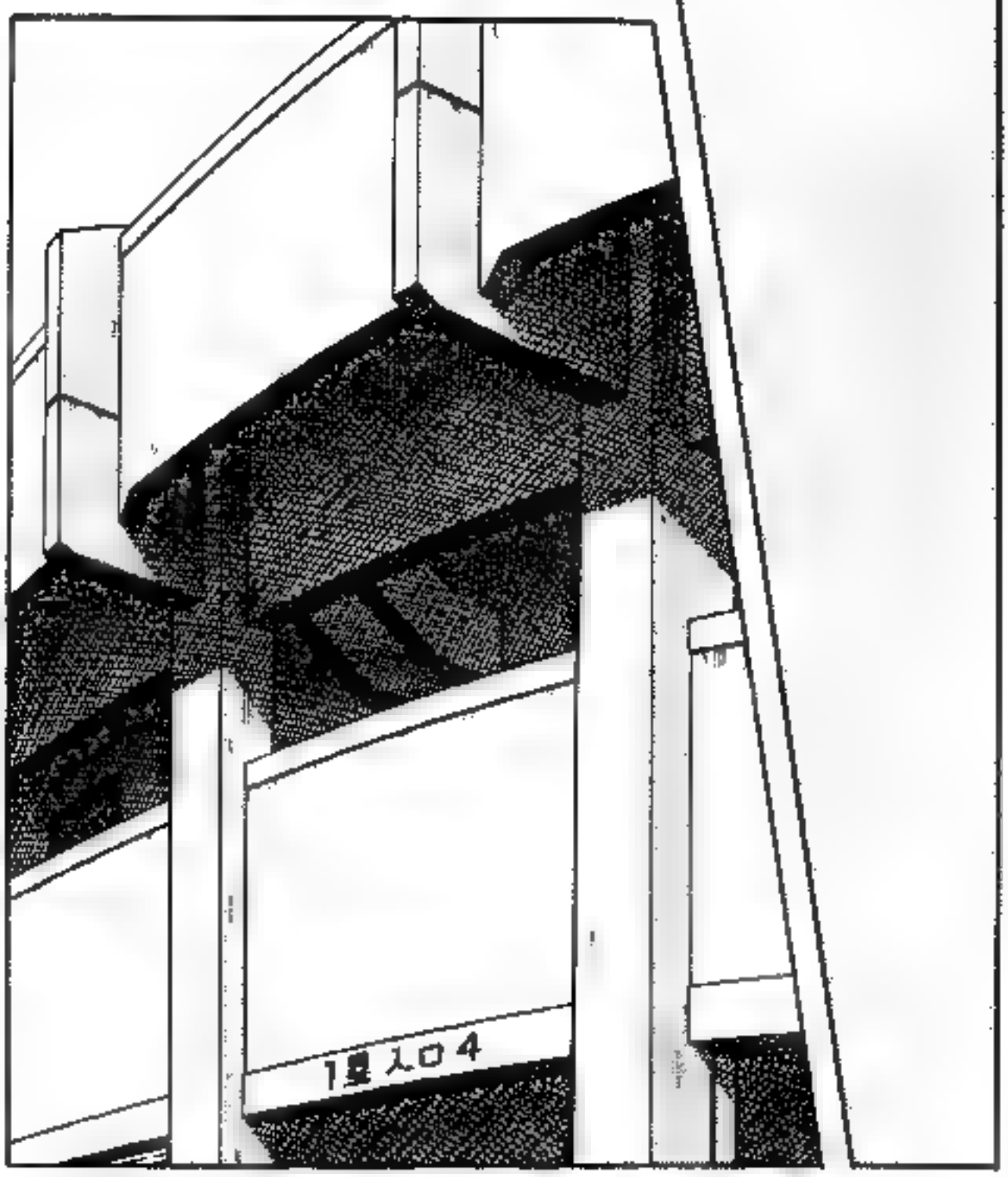


Regional
Tournament
Finals

Seinan
-
Sumi Tech



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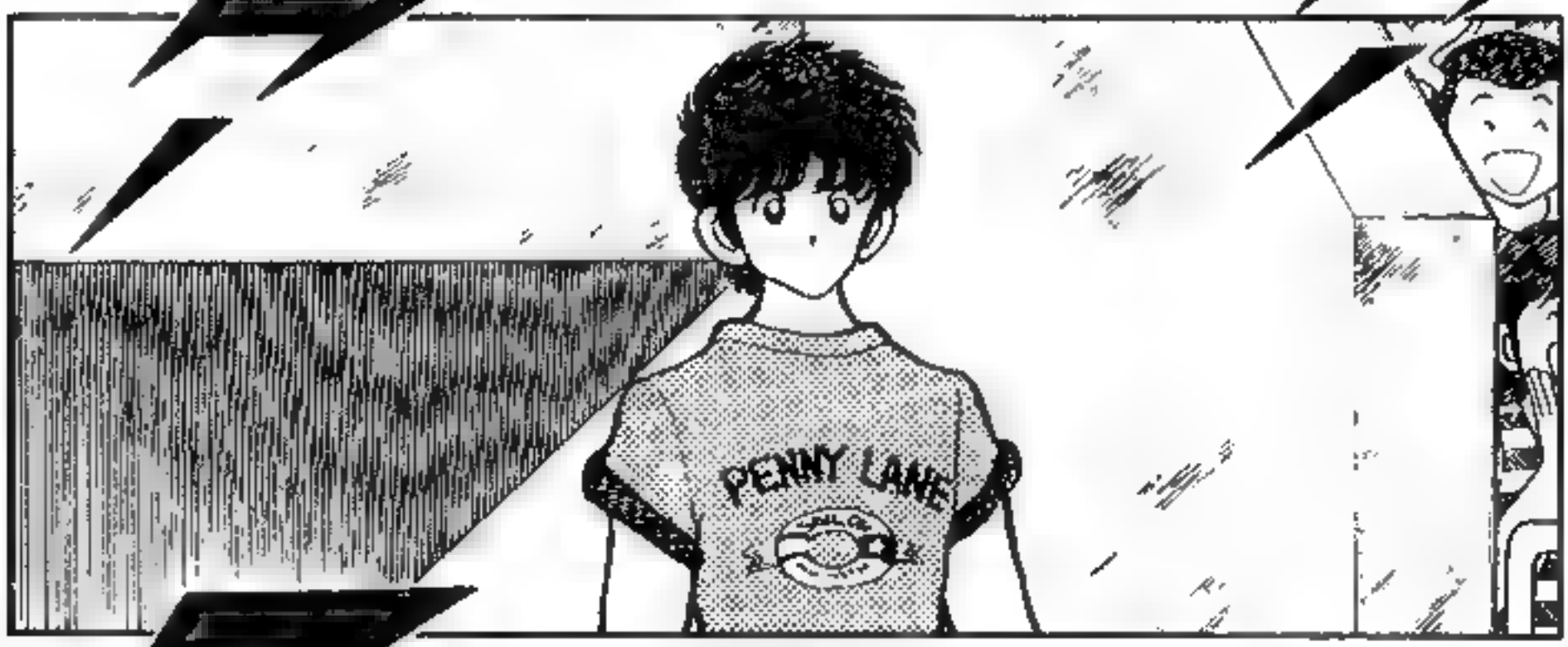
SUMI


PENNY LANE

We Have to Take the Long View

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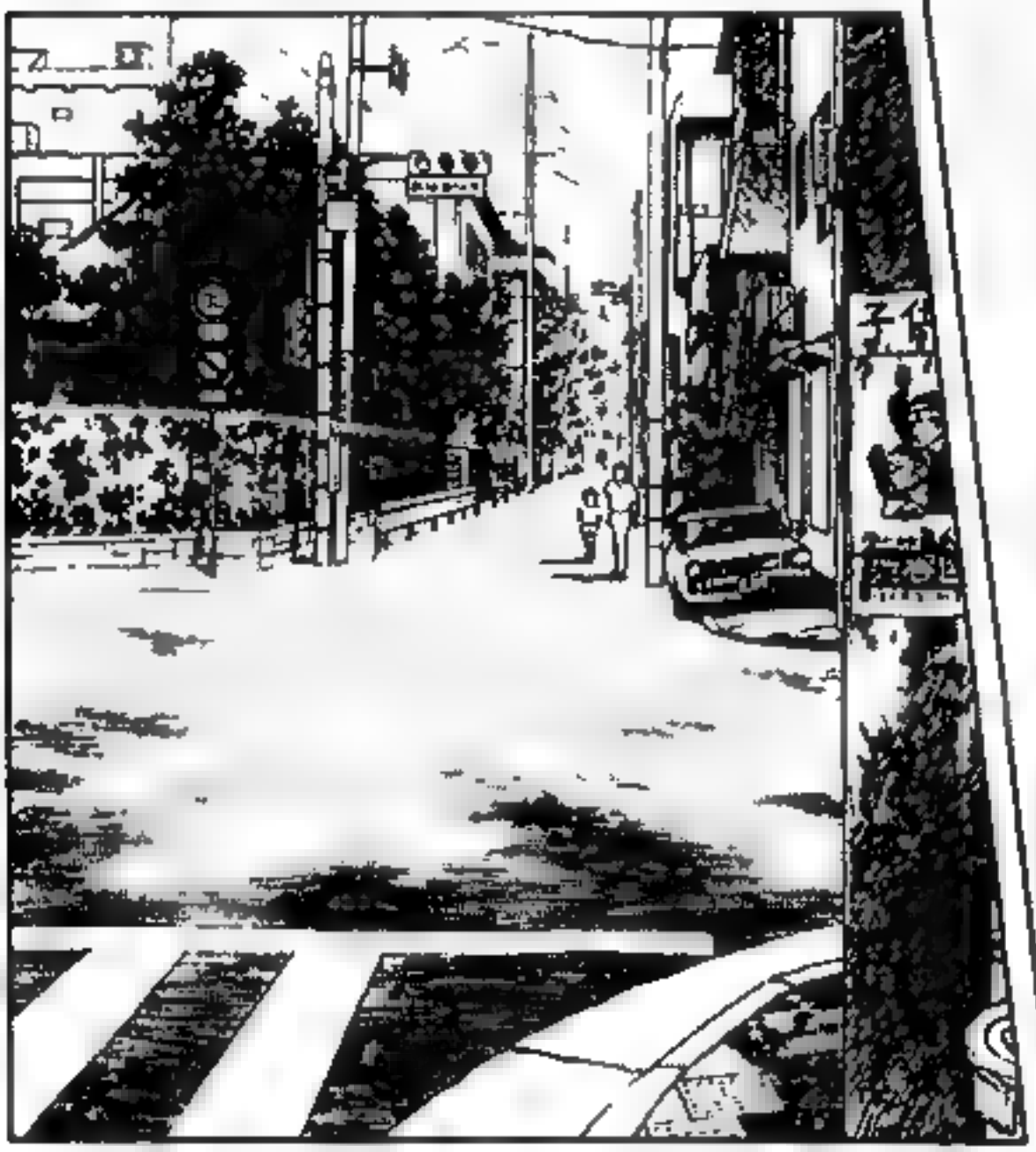
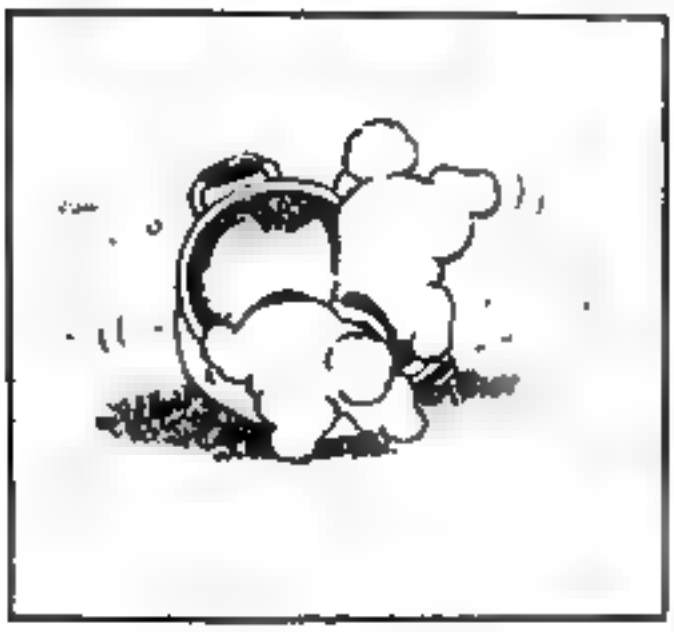
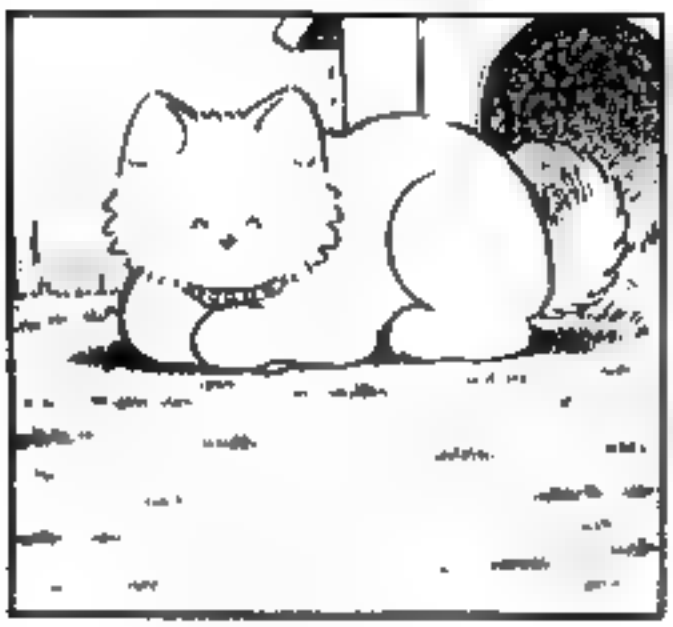
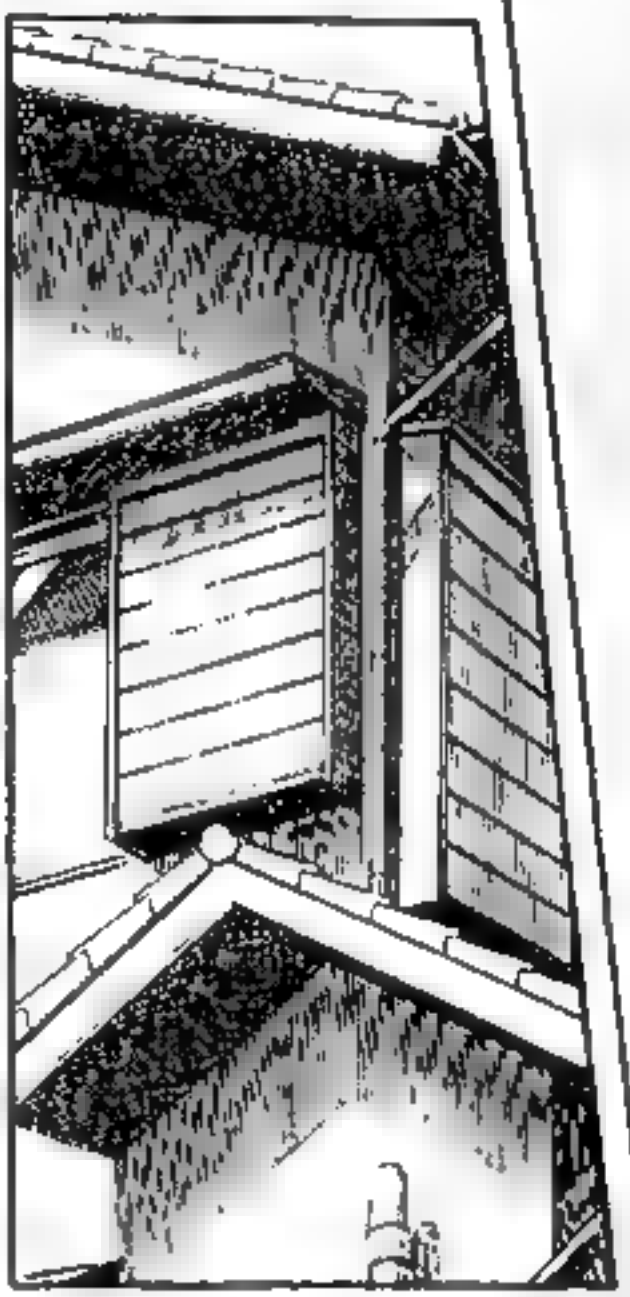






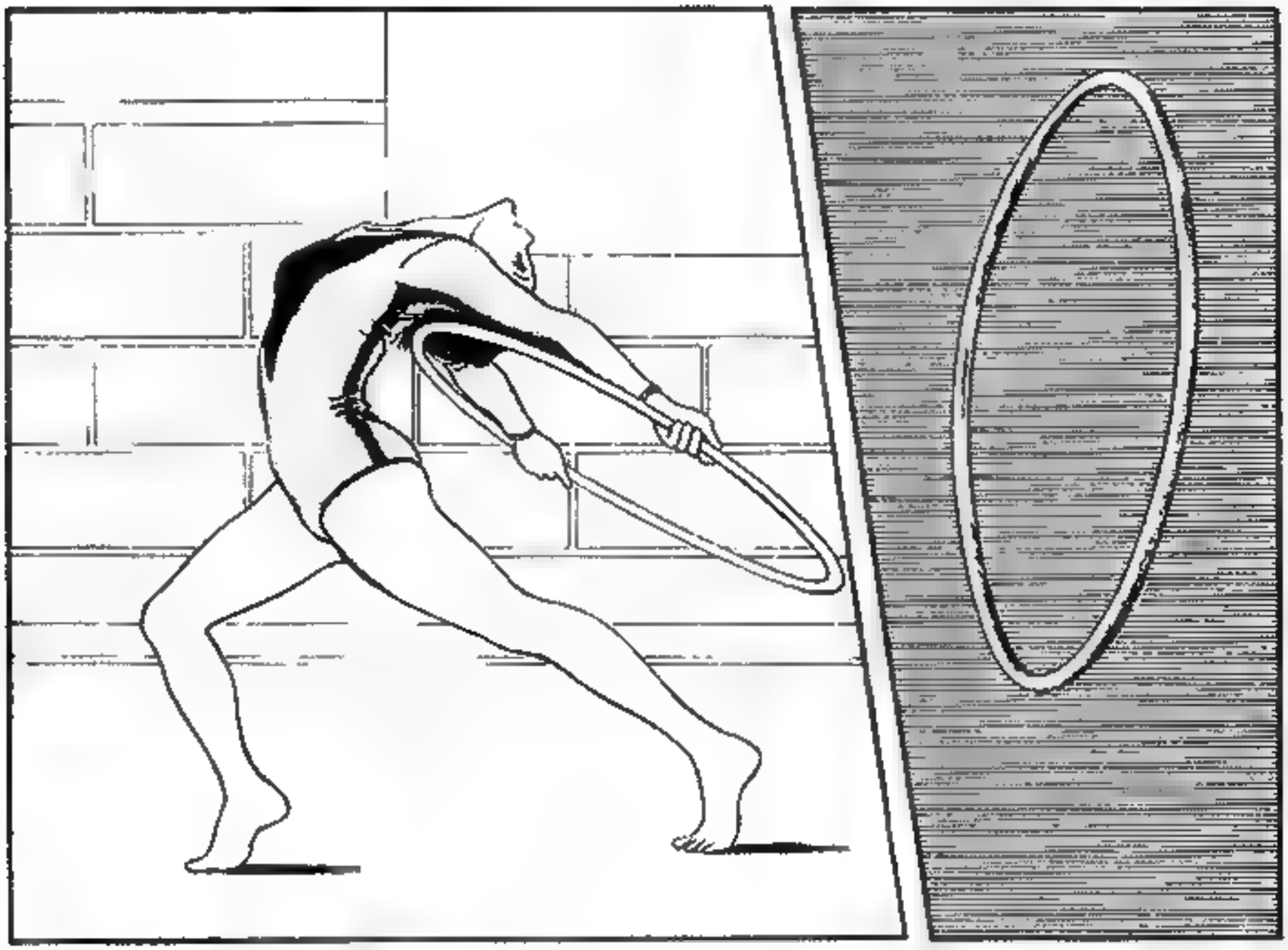


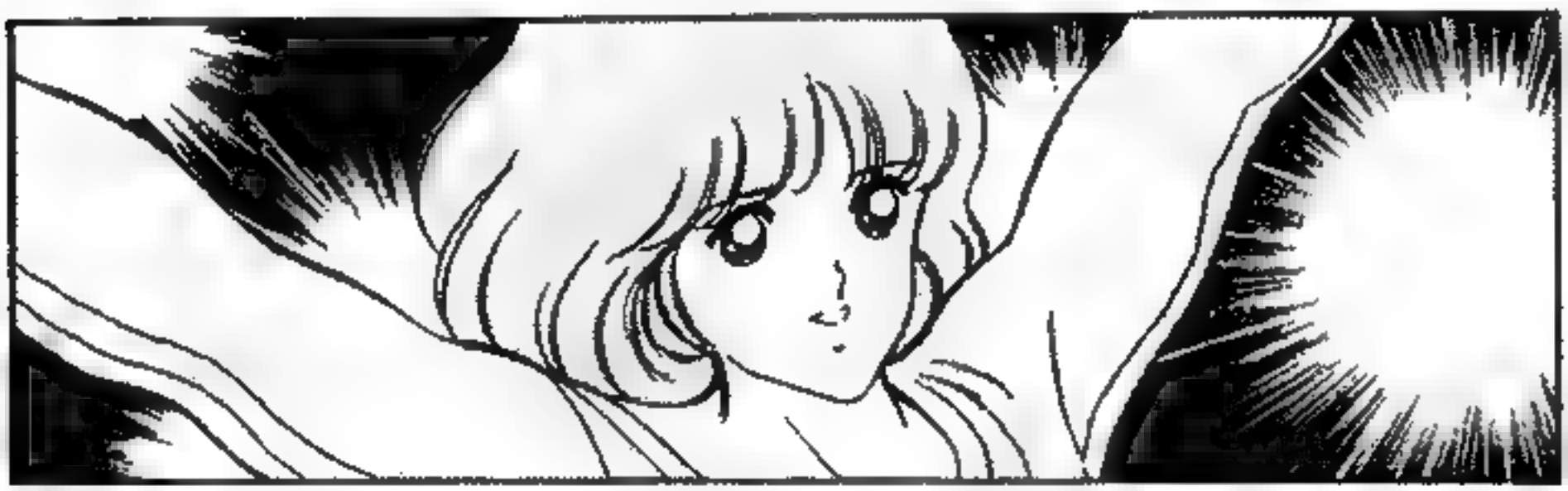
National High School
Baseball Championship Tournament

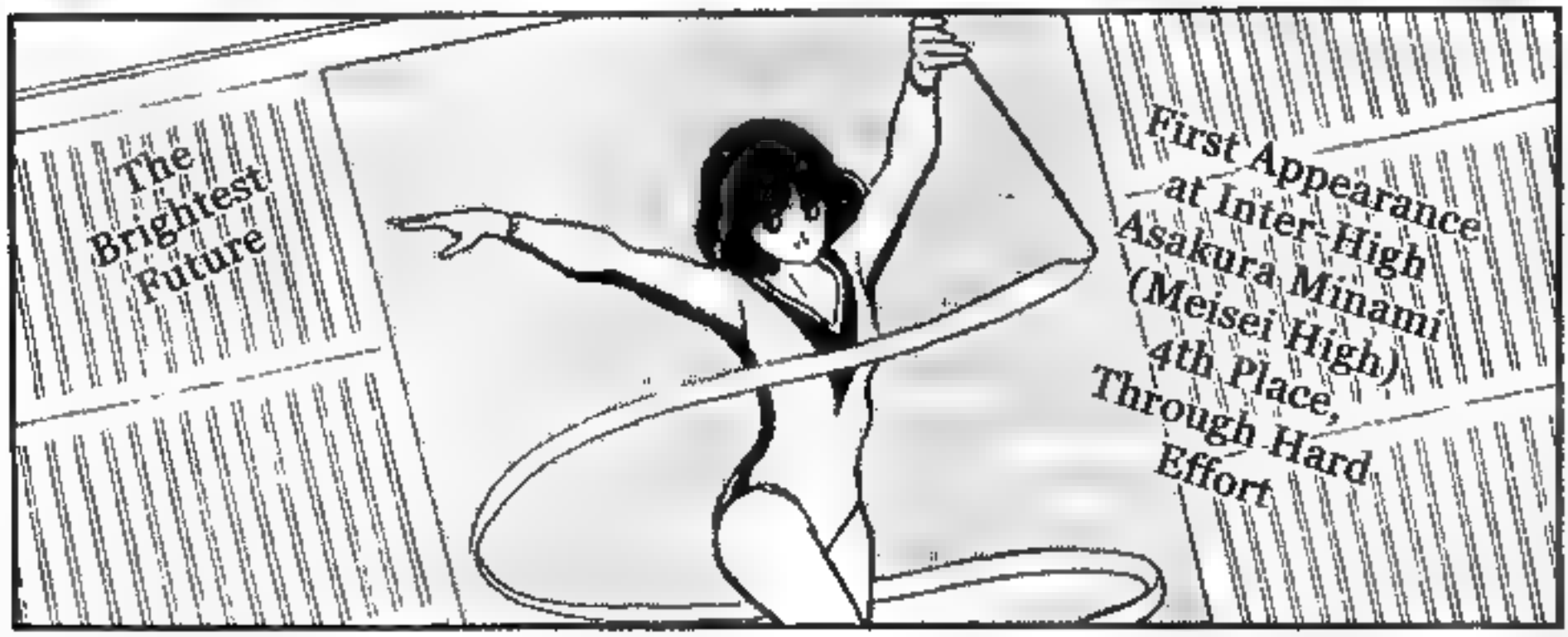
Sumi Tech, Semifinal Winner

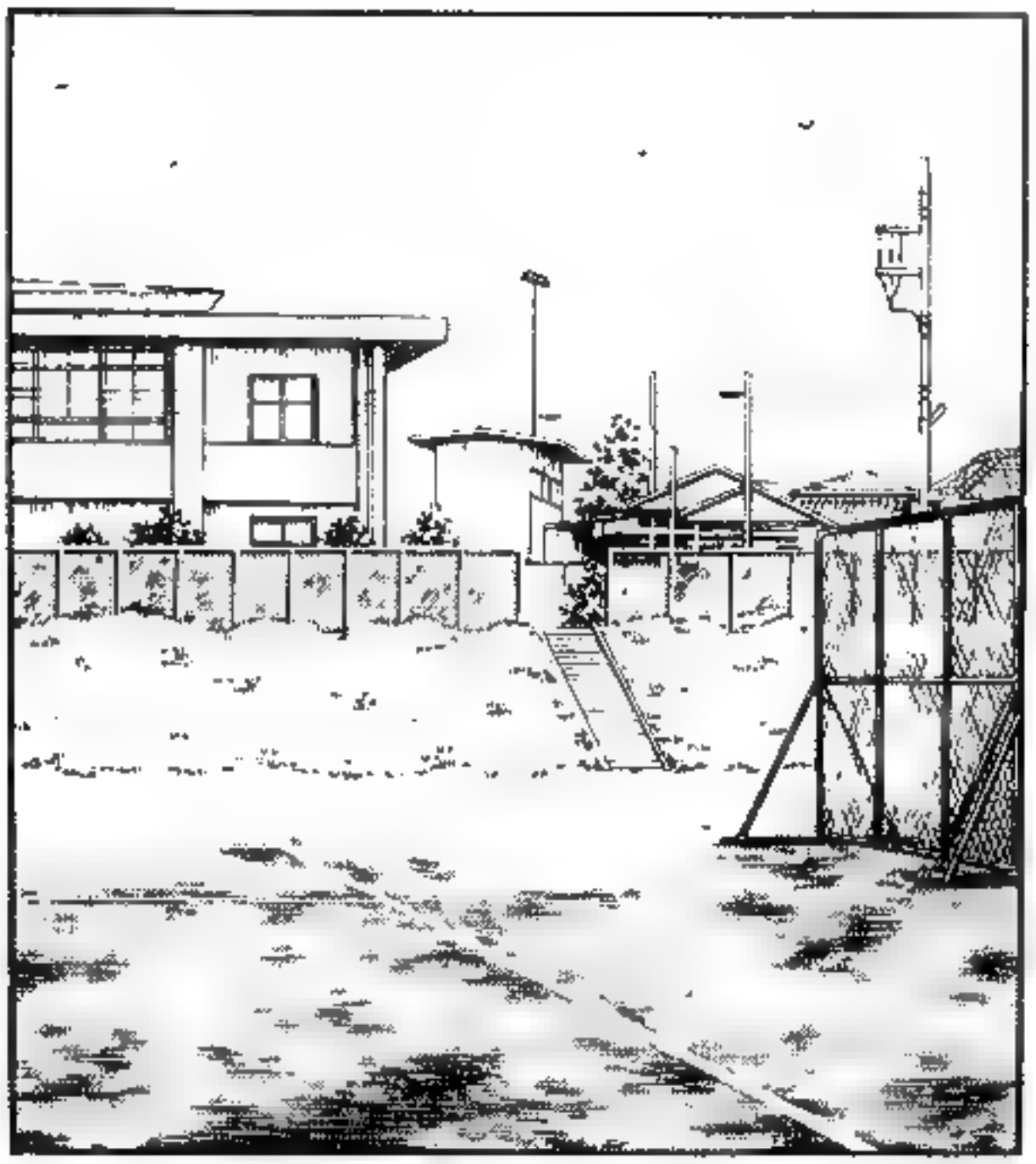
4 homers, 20 R.B.I.s

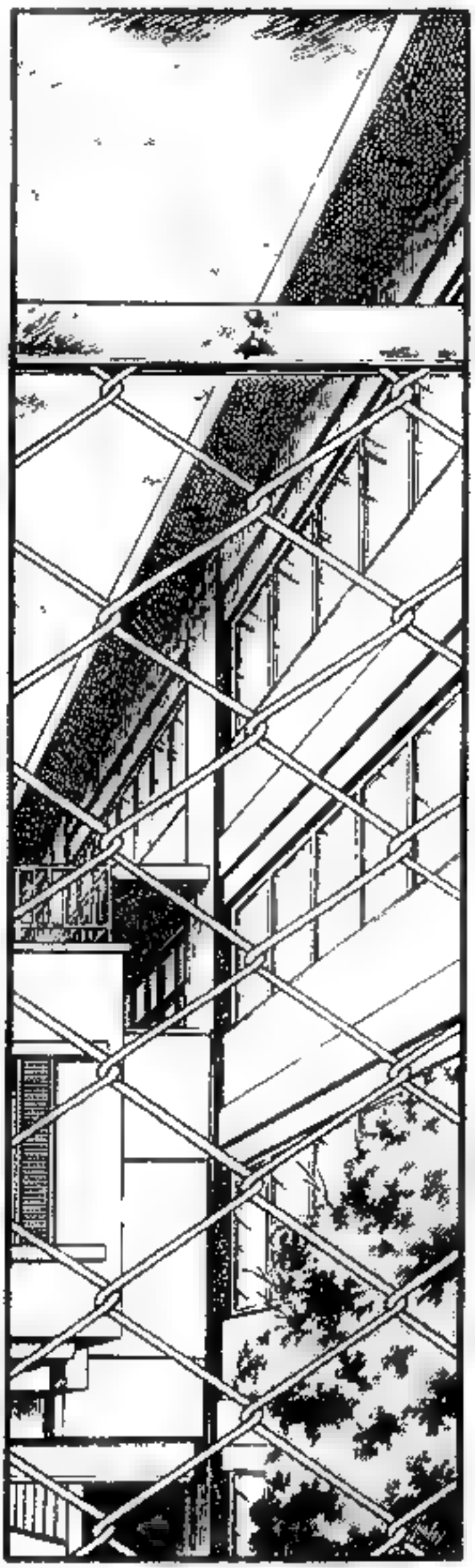
Nitta, in 6 Kou-shien games

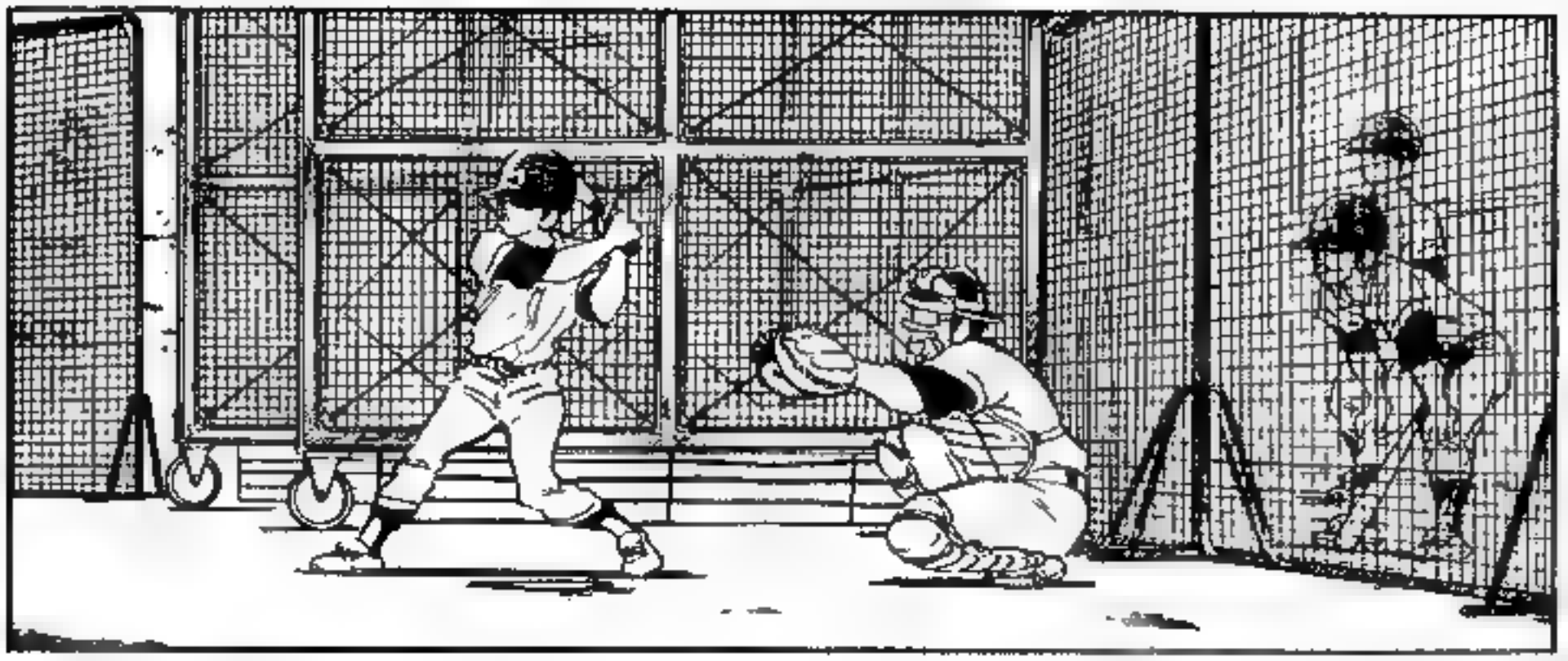





The Brightest Future
First Appearance at Inter-High Asakura Minami (Meisei High) 4th Place, Through Hard Effort

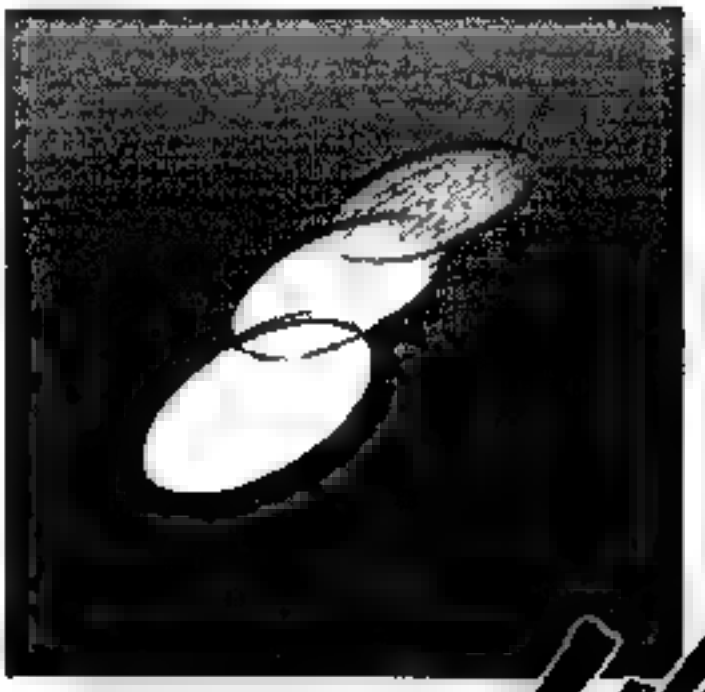


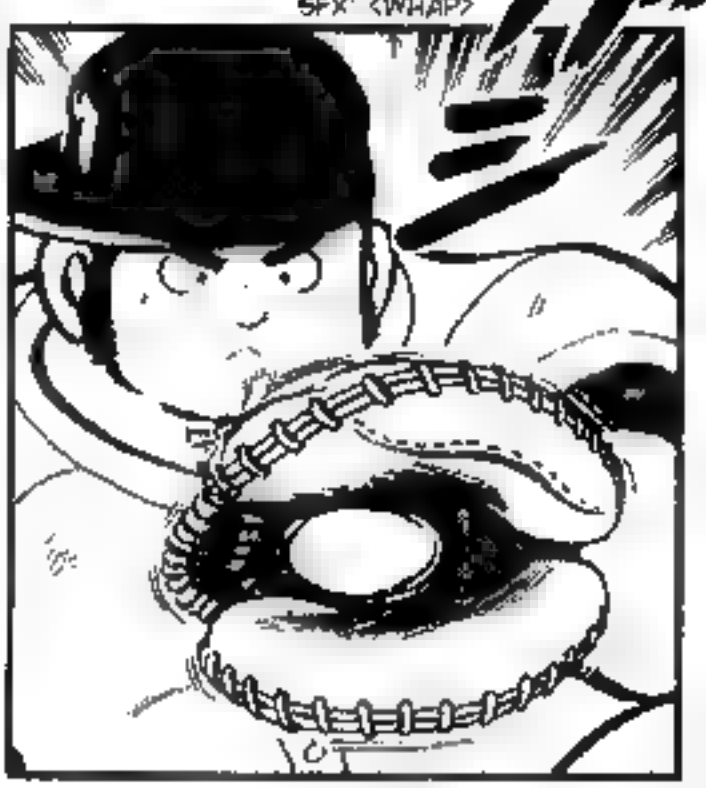




YES.

ATTA WAY TO GO
LOOKING GOOD, YOSHI-DA!!




SFX: <WHAP>

SFX: <WHAP!>

UNEX-
PECTED

QUITE
...

HE'S A CLEVER GUY, HM?

NEXT, IT'S NISHI-MURA'S CURVE-BALL, HUH?

STEALS THE WAY UESUGI PITCHES.

HMM.

WHAT A PLAYER HE'LL BE...

IF HE DOESN'T MERELY END UP BEING A COPYCAT,

ALL RIGHT.

LAST ONE.

MAYBE I'LL GIVE H.M A TRY ONCE IN A REAL GAME.

SFX: <THWOCK>

THAT'S A GREAT CURVE

AH.

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT

YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN

HEY, HEY.

AH ... CAPTAIN.

I LEAVE IT ALL TO YOU! THE NEW TEAM.

AH HA.

IT'S STILL EARLY AFTER ALL...

THANKS.

AH ..

SOME-HOW .. WELL

HE'S OFF DOING ROAD-WORK.

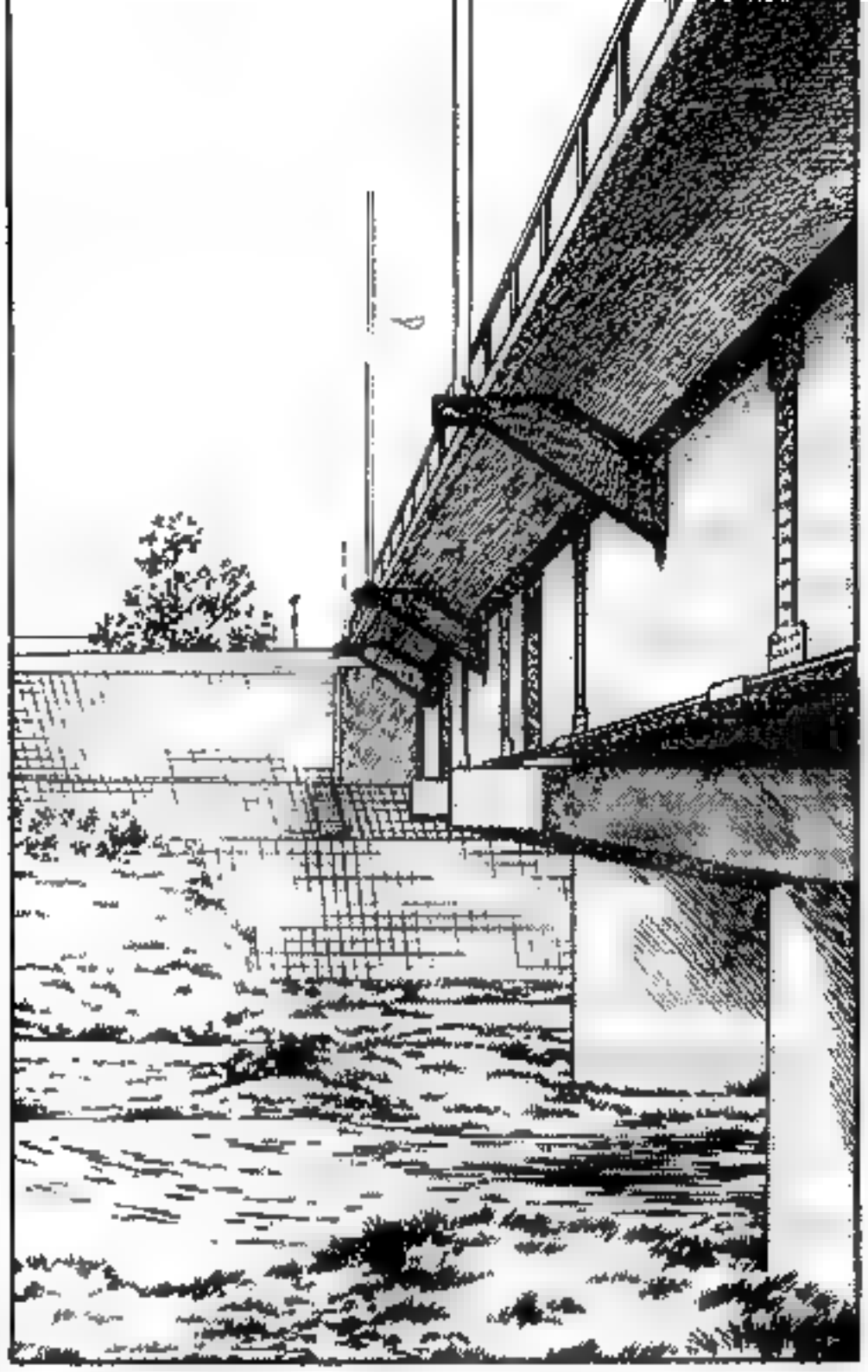
CLINK

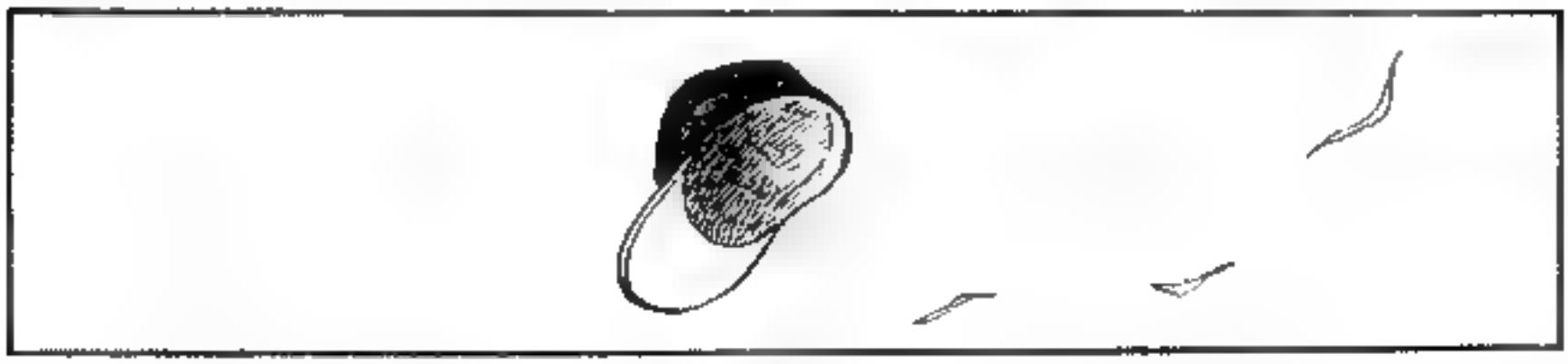
WHERE'S LESLIE?

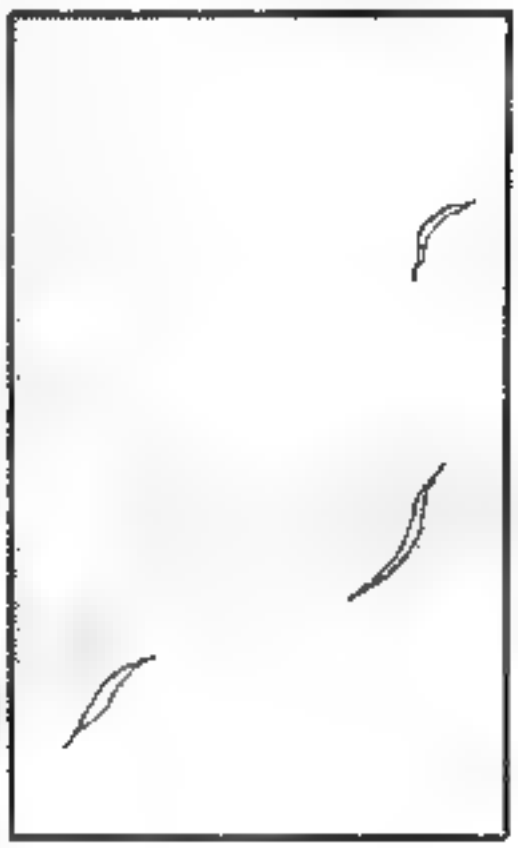
OHO.

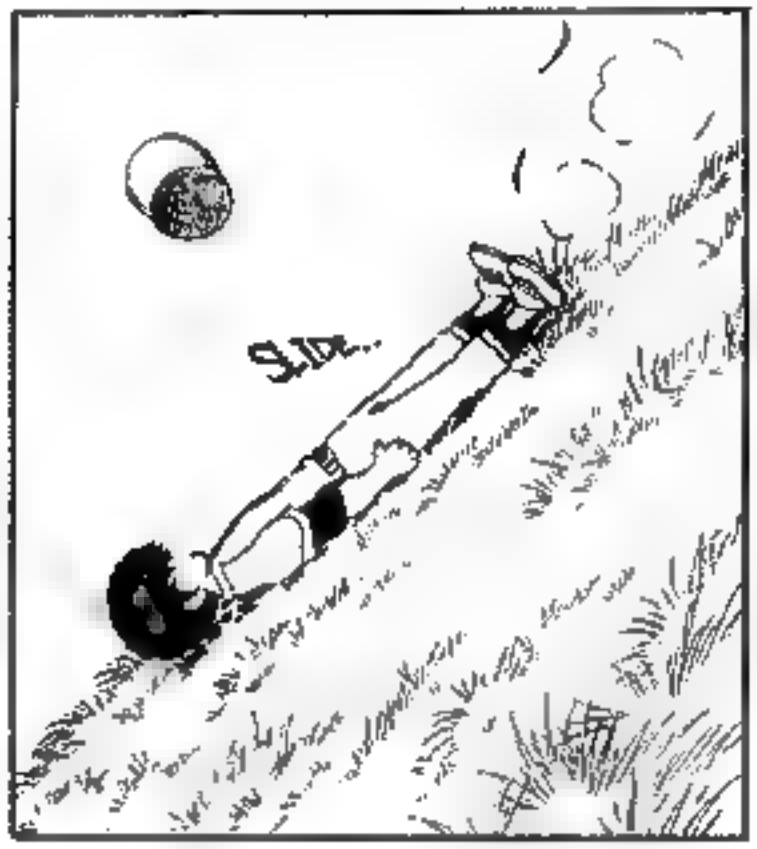
ALL HE'S DOING LATELY IS RUNNING.

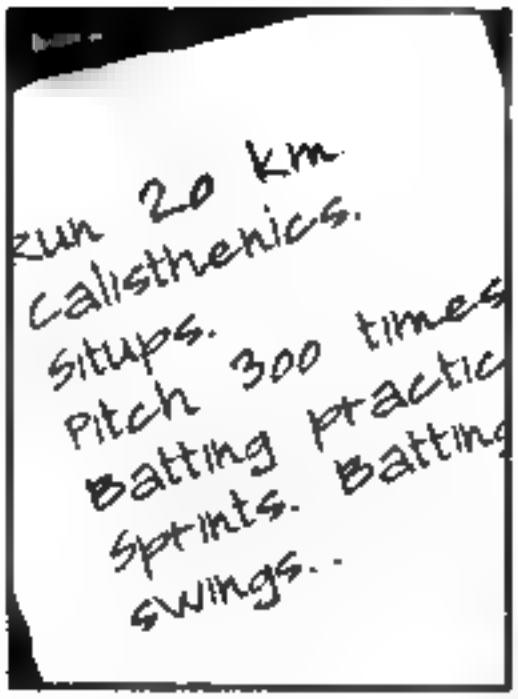
タッチ11

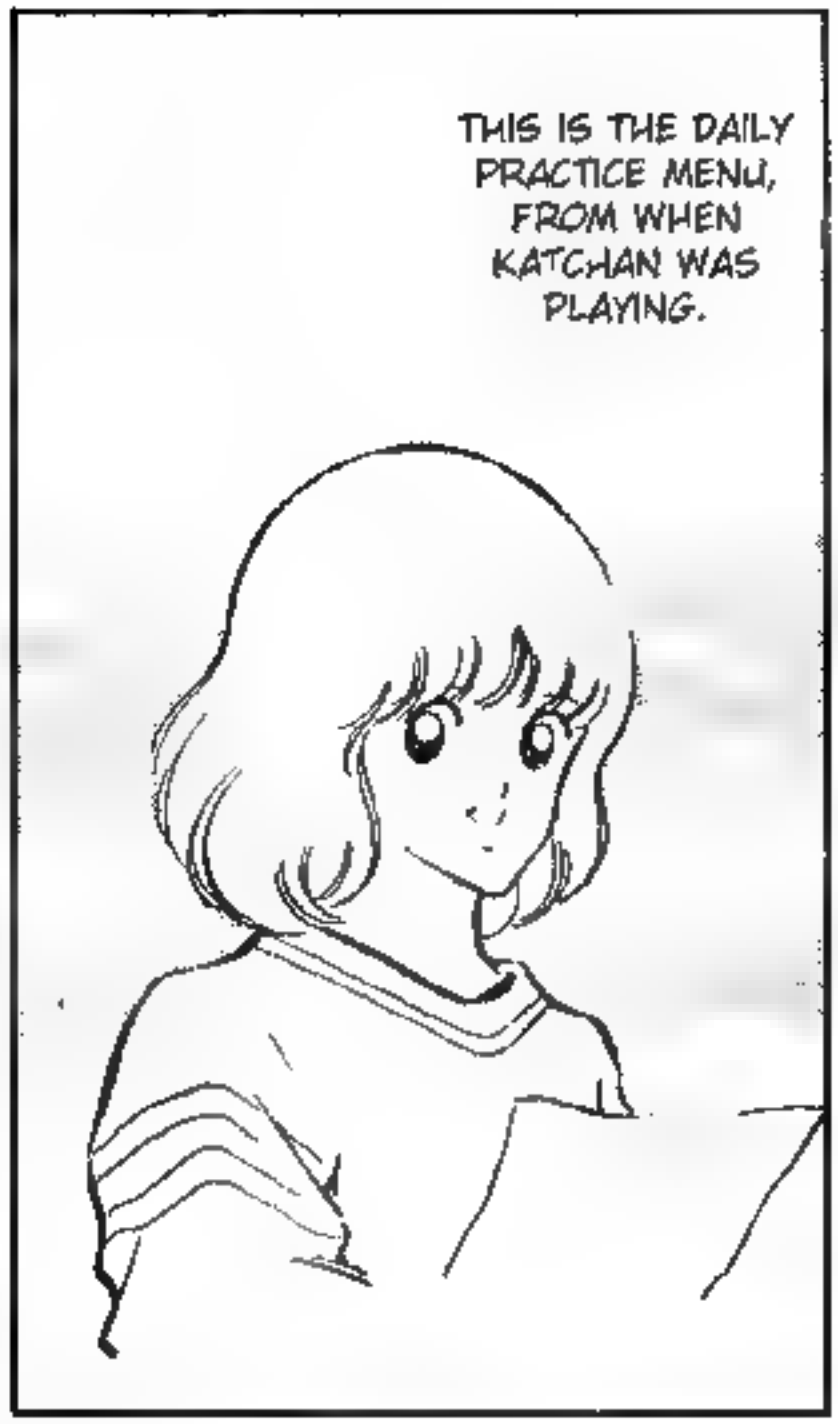




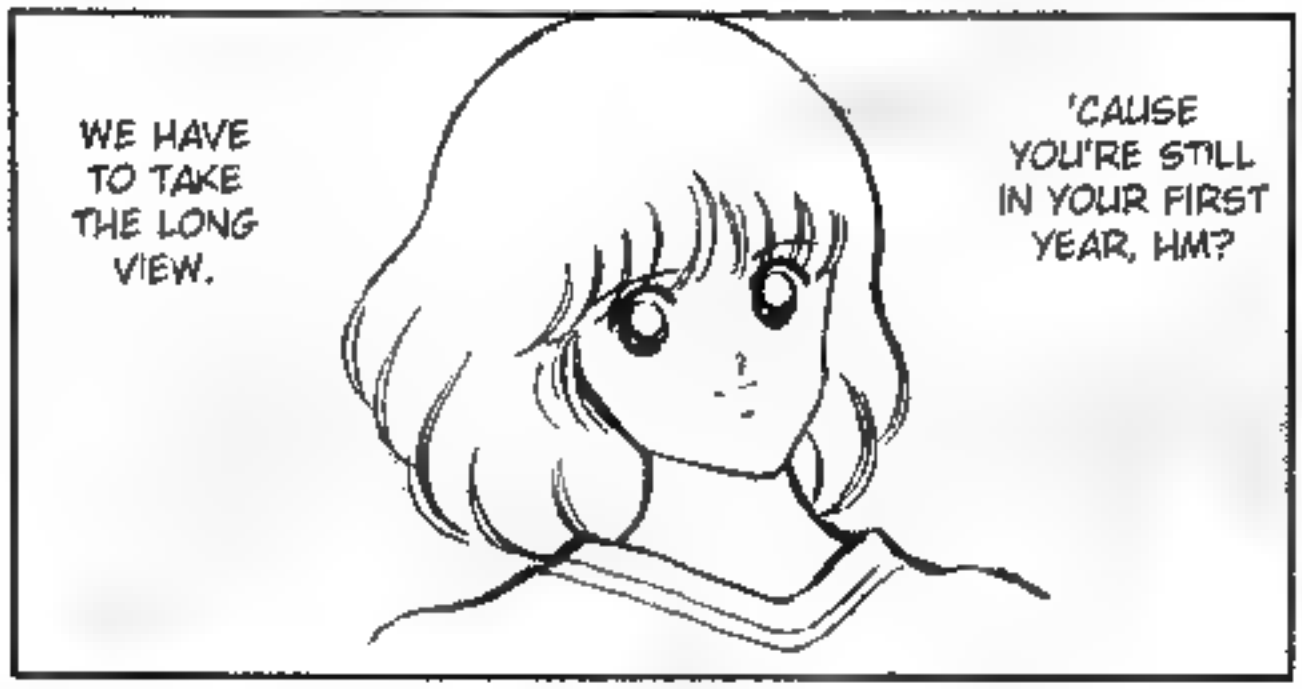





Run 20 km.
Calisthenics.
Situps.
Pitch 300 times
Batting practic
Sprints. Batting
swings..


THIS IS THE DAILY PRACTICE MENU, FROM WHEN KATCHAN WAS PLAYING.

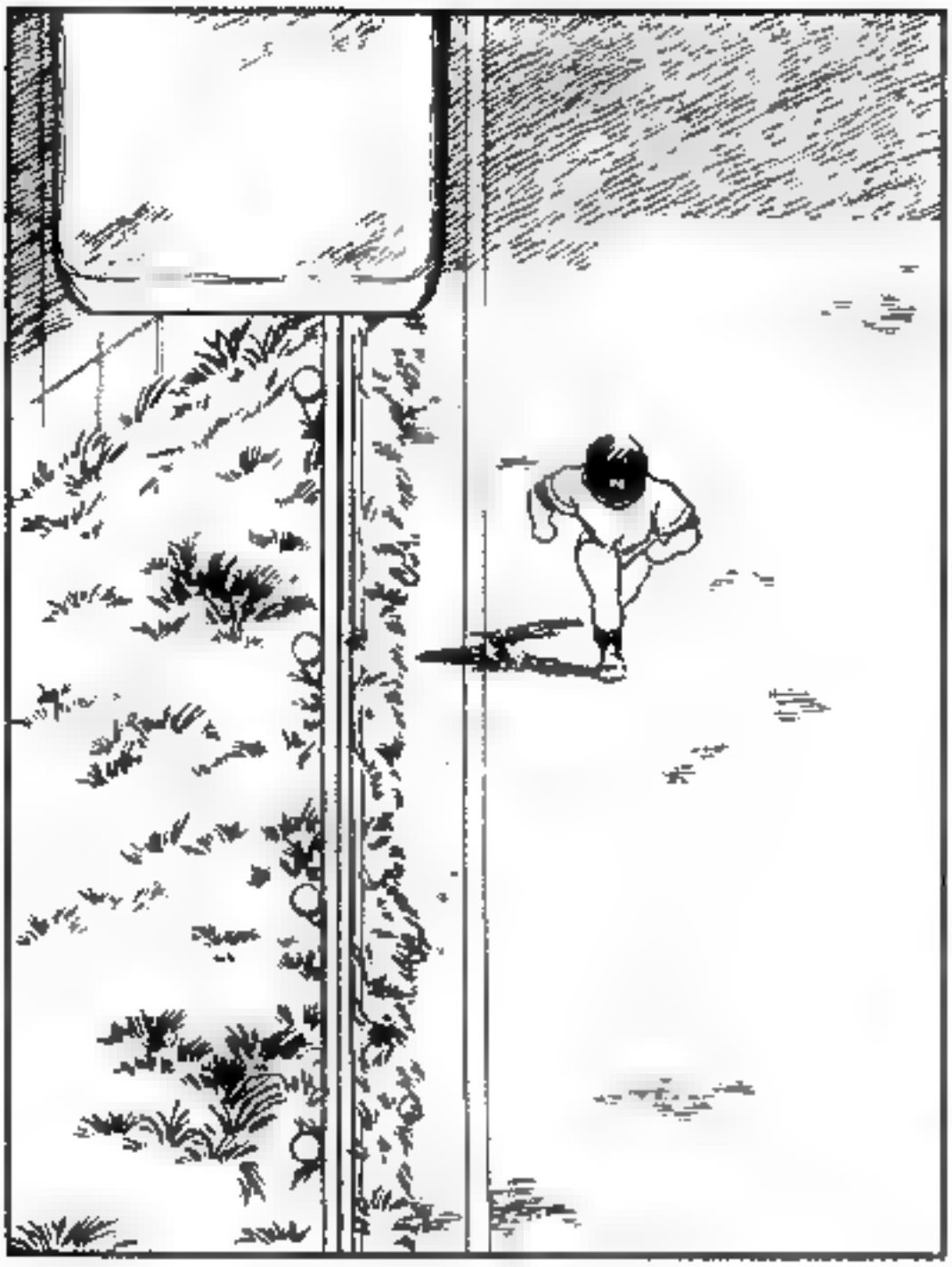
AGHHH.

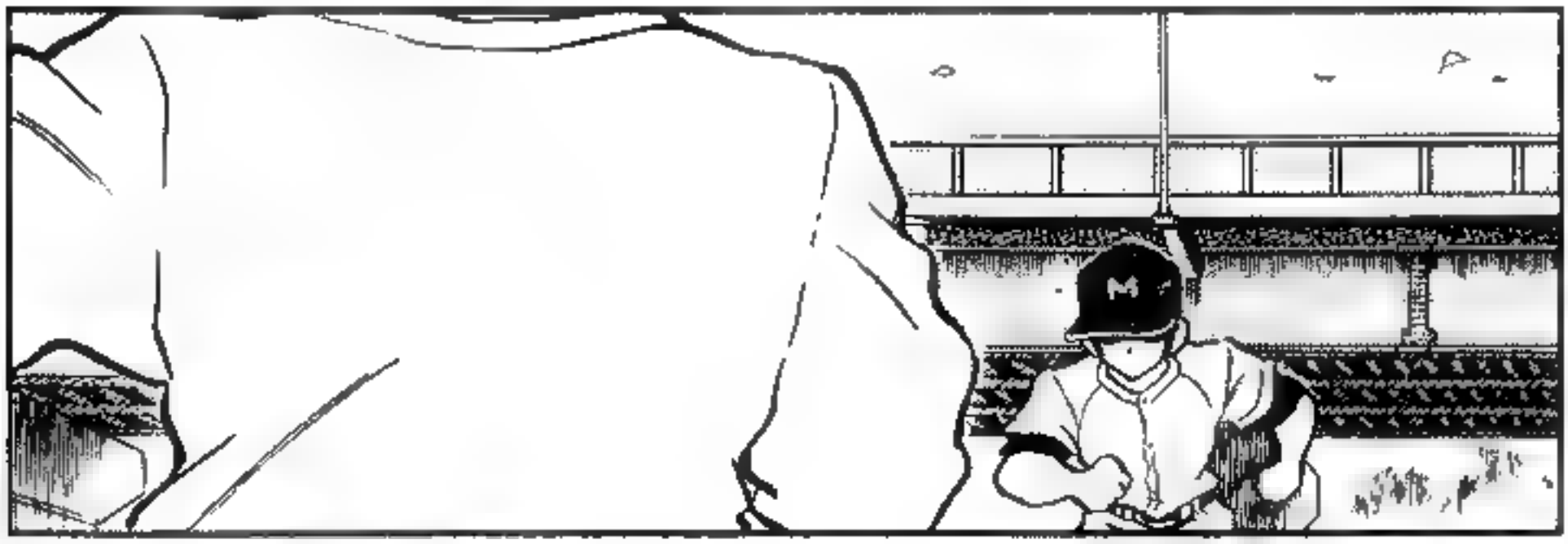

WE HAVE TO TAKE THE LONG VIEW.
'CAUSE YOU'RE STILL IN YOUR FIRST YEAR, HM?

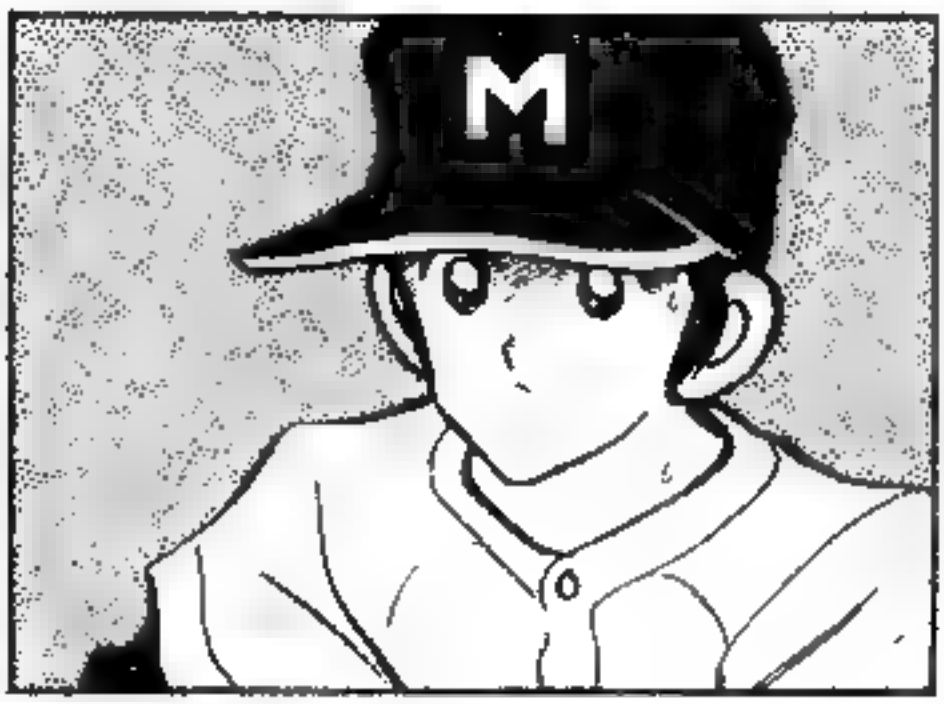
GAH!

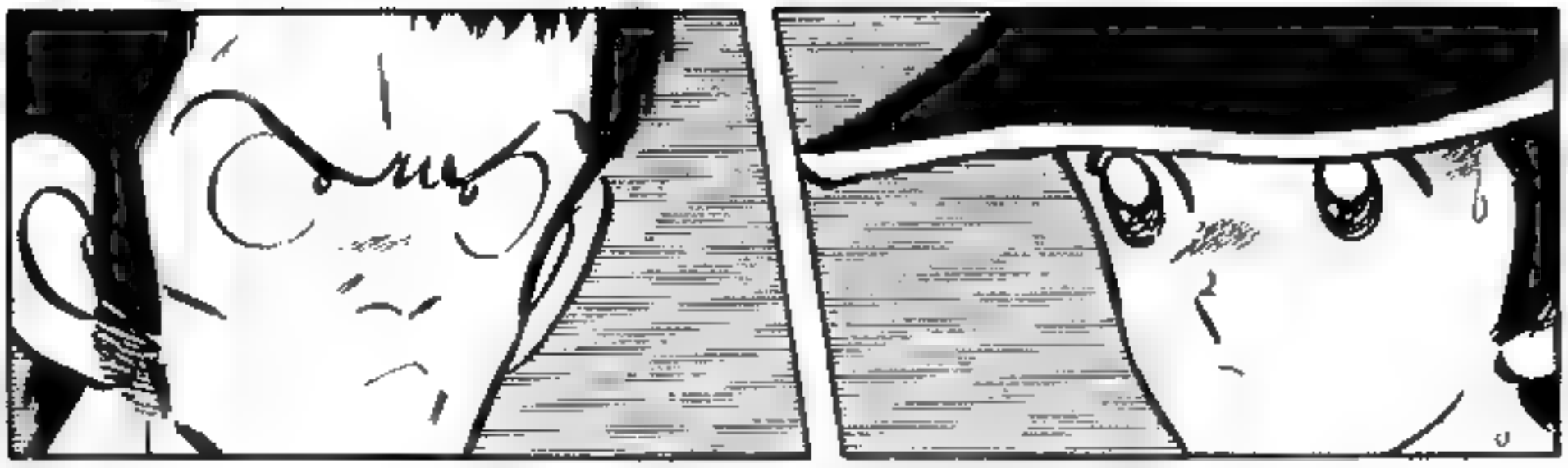
HAA

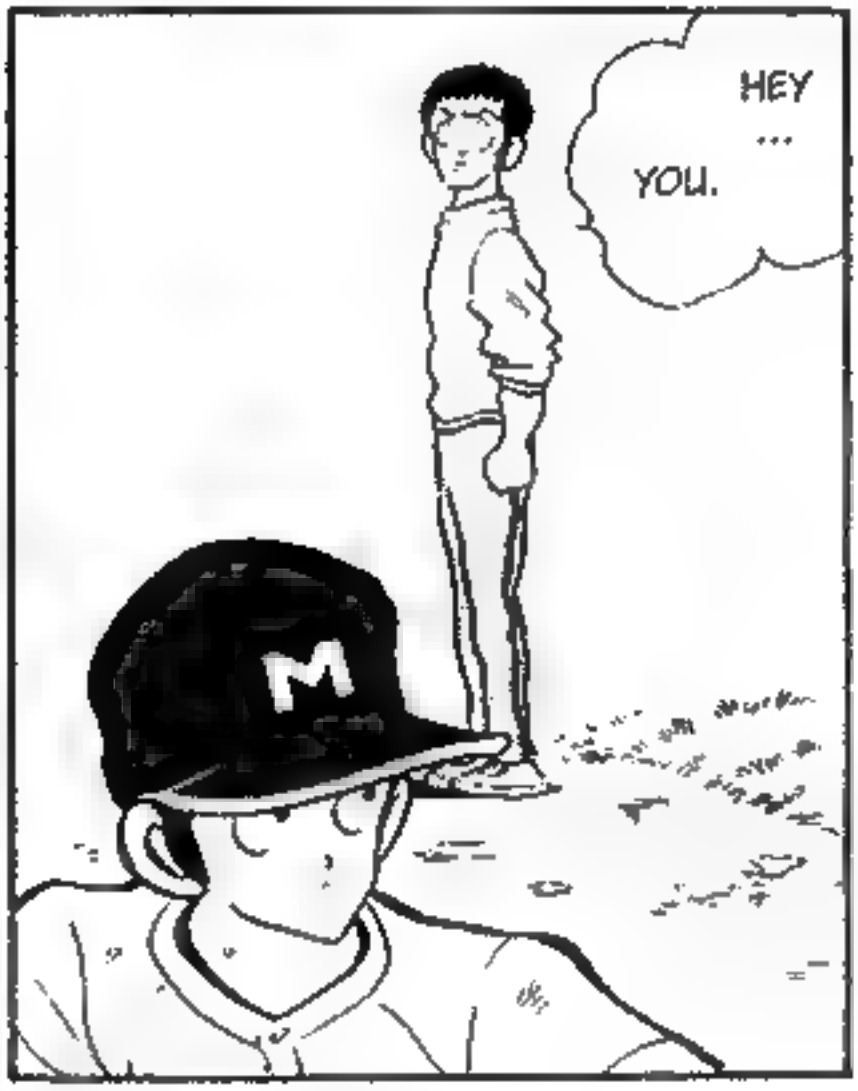
I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR SOME TIME NOW ...
JUST WITH THE RUNNING, THE DAY'S GONE PAST...
HAA
HAA

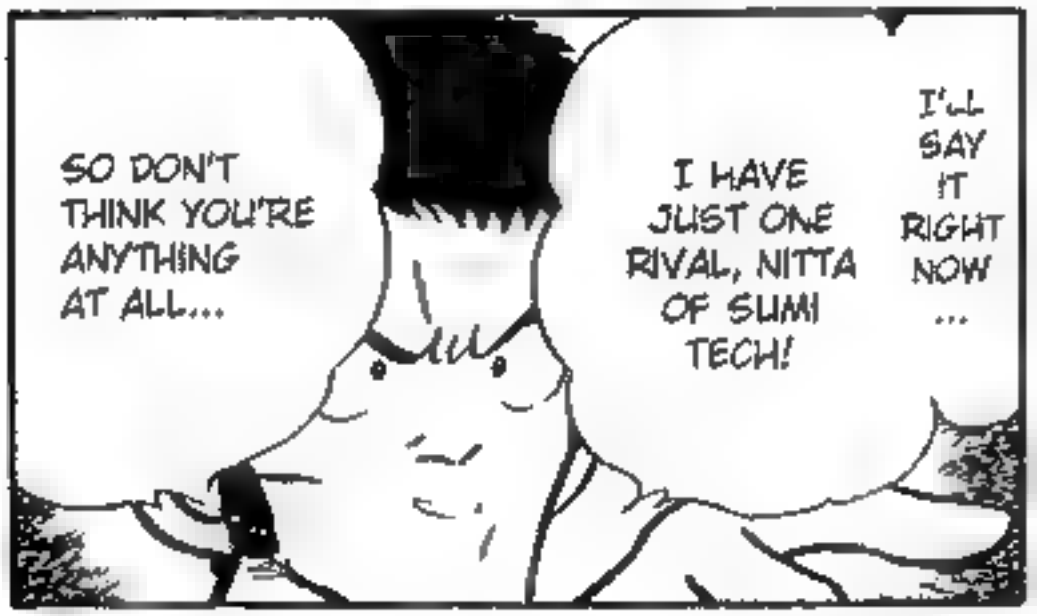


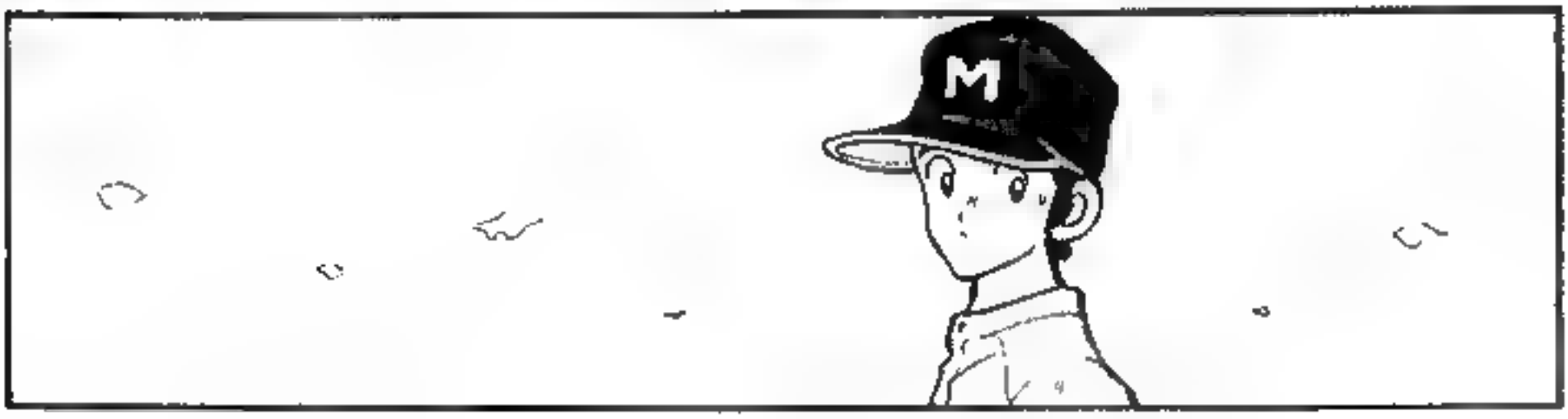







HEY
...
YOU.


SO DON'T THINK YOU'RE ANYTHING AT ALL...
I HAVE JUST ONE RIVAL, NITTA OF SUMI TECH!
I'LL SAY IT RIGHT NOW ...



.....

YOU WEREN'T WEARING YOUR UNIFORM, SO I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.

NISHI-MURA OF SEINAN, HUH?

OH-HHH ...

AHH!

ISN'T JUST SOMEONE WHO CAN THROW HARD!

A P-

PITCHER, Y'KNOW...

STRAT-EGY!

PITCHING TAKES BRAINS!

ALWAYS ENDS UP KILLING HIMSELF

ANYONE THROWING GARBAGE LIKE YOU...

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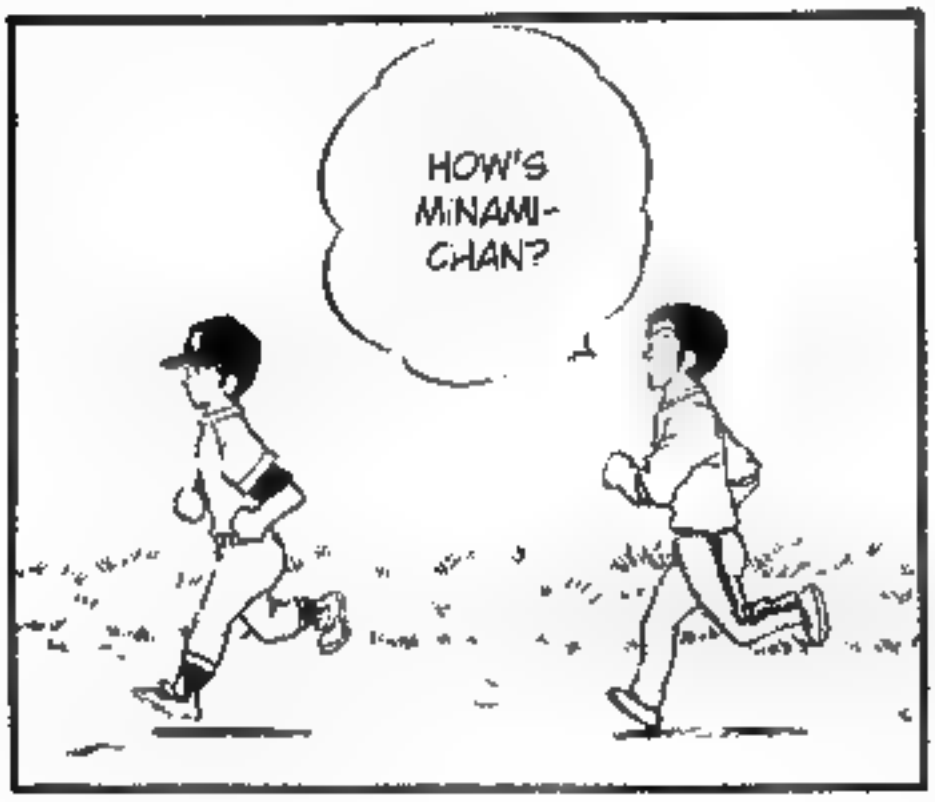

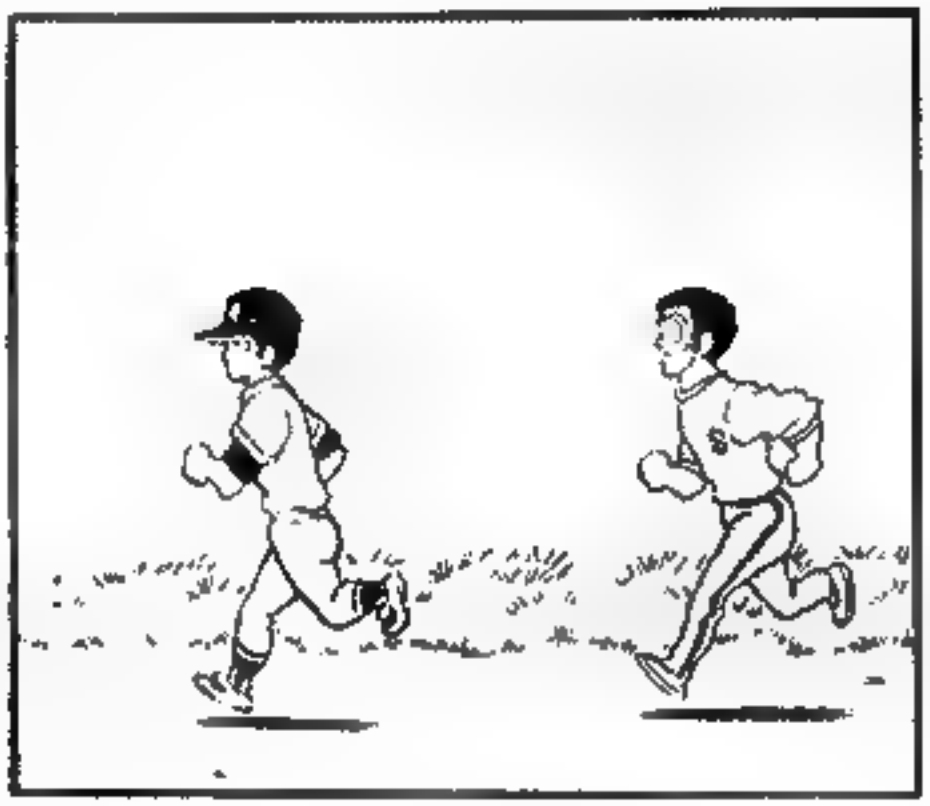

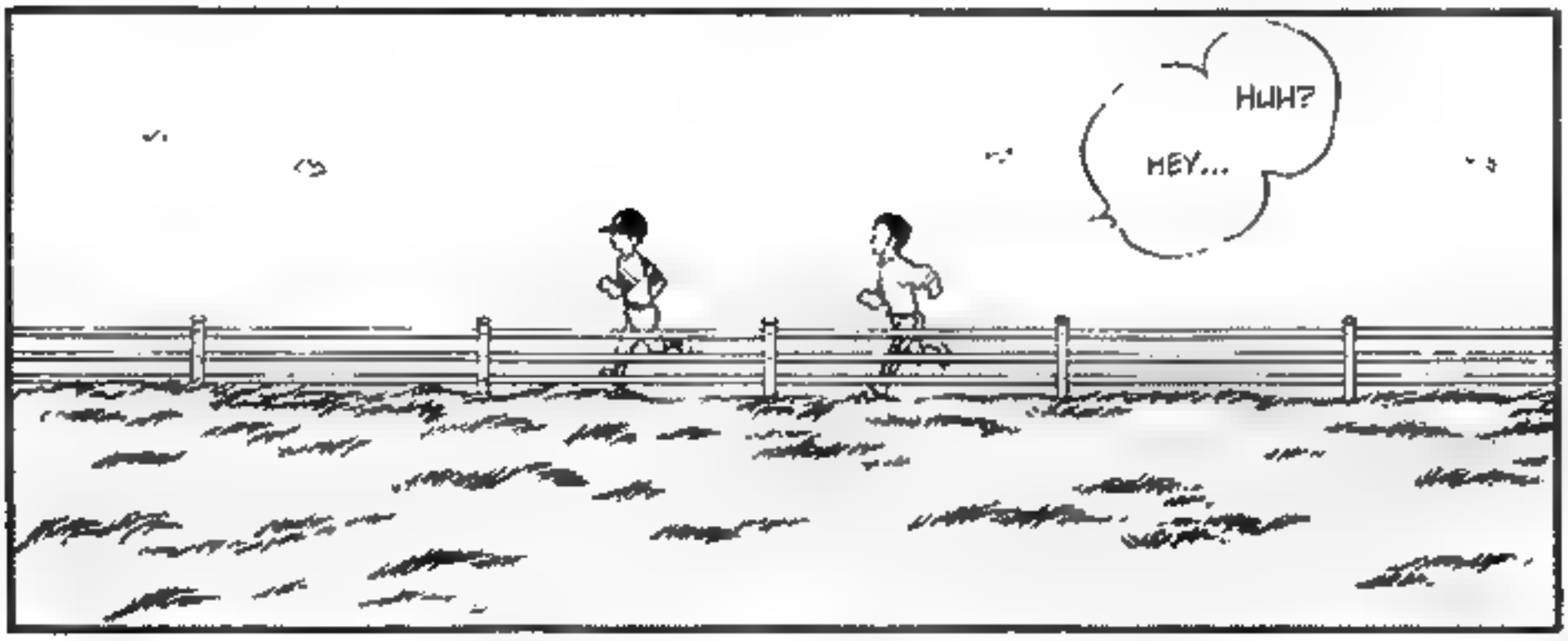

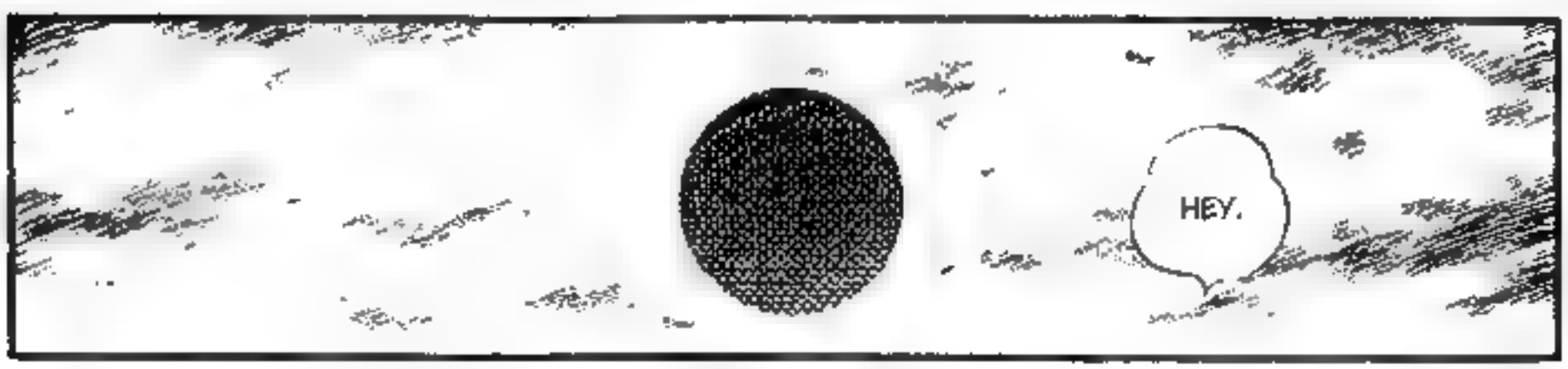

SACK: <ASAHI SUPERMARKET>

OOF

KYA!!

SFX: <SQUEAK!?

SFX: <VROOM>

I'VE GOT GOOD RE-FLEXES.

LEAVE IT TO ME

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?

SORRY.

WAHHH!

YOU CAN'T SEE IN FRONT OF YOU, RIGHT?

AH ...

UPSY.

An Unexpected Meeting

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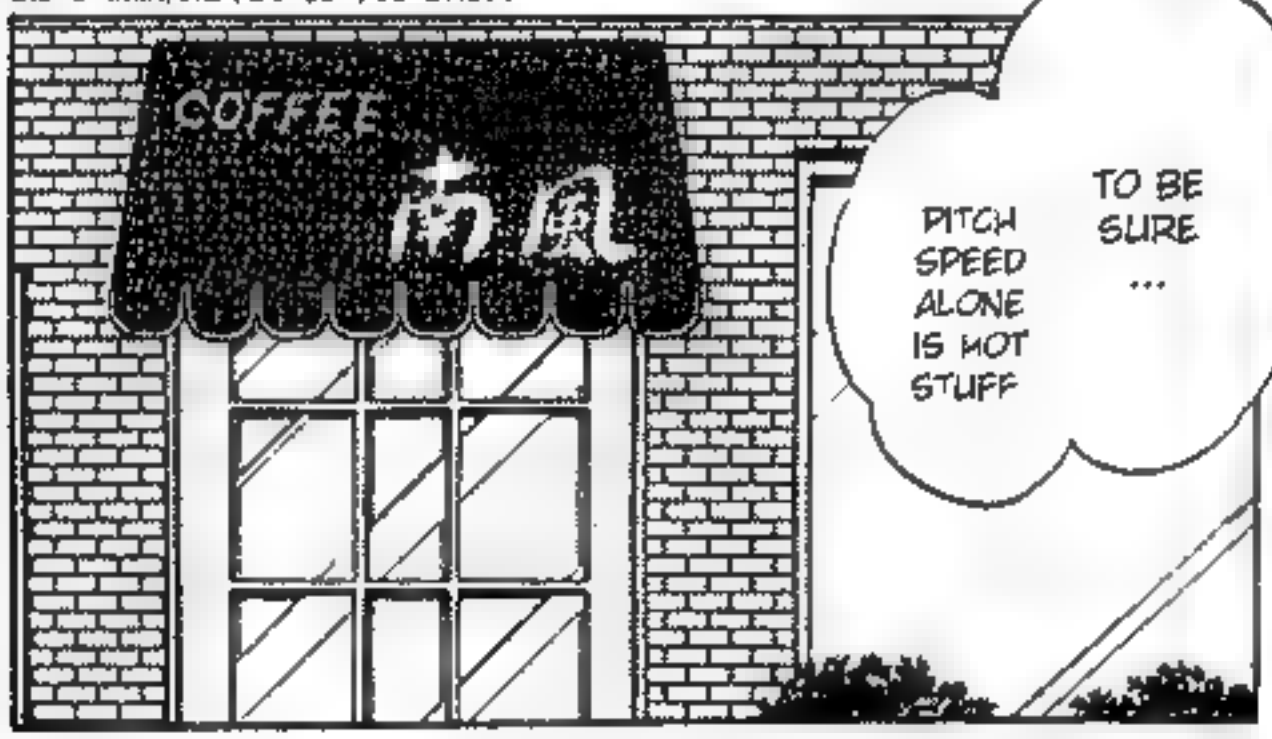
SIGN: <MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP>



SIGN: <MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP>

BALL

HOW-EVER THE PITCHER'S PRIMARY QUALIFICATION, AFTER ALL, IS CONTROL.

THAT HE CAN THROW A STRIKE AT ANY TIME IS A MAJOR PRECONDITION.

THE STRATEGY OF READING THE OP-POSING BATTER...

OUT

THAT IS THE EXQUISITE APPEAL OF PITCHING.

AND HOW TO EFFECTIVELY USE THE THREE STRIKES ...

IN COMBINA-TION WITH BALLS

MENU

IT'S YOUR TURN.

IN PARTICULAR, SOMEONE WHO PITCHES IS...

BASEBALL ISN'T SO SIMPLE A SPORT AS THAT.

THROW-ING AND HITTING AND CATCH-ING.

Three outs Change sides!

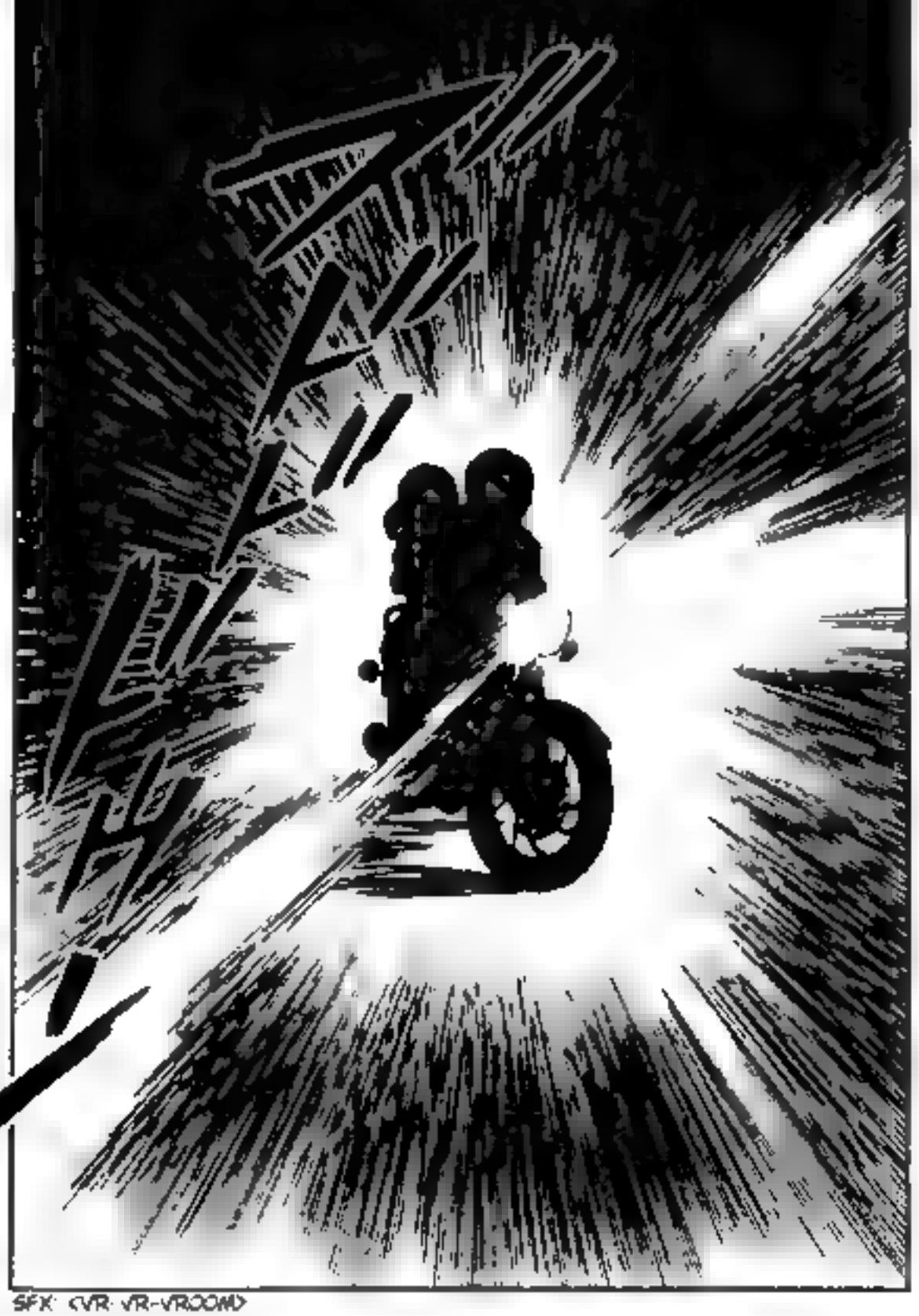
RIGHT.

ISN'T MINAMI-CHAN LATE?

O-TOU-SAN ...

GETTING LATE...

WHAT?



SFX: <VR VR-VR.OOM>

AH...

WEL-COME BACK.

OUT

WAH!

SFX: <RATTLE>

OHH ...

WHAT AN UN-EXPECTED MEETING.

NITTA !?

LIKE-WISE FOR YOU.

SWISH!

I'M GLAD THIS HAP-PENED, NITTA...!

IF YOU DON'T MIND, TAKE A SEAT OVER THERE.

AH ...

I'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THIS CARD.

COULD I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE?

ASKING A HELP-LESS GIRL...

DON'T LEAVE THE SHOPPING TO ME, PLEASE, IF THERE'S SO MUCH THAT I CAN'T CARRY IT AND WALK.

JEEZ ...

RIGHT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TROUBLE.

HERE YOU GO.

SO I SAW HER HOME ON MY B.KE.

IT SEEMED DANGEROUS, CARRYING ALL THAT GROCERIES ...

IT WAS BY CHANCE.

WHY WERE YOU TOGETHER WITH MINAMI-CHAN?

...

THAT'S ALL.

YEAH.

IS THIS OKAY?

I DIDN'T ASK YOU ANYTHING!

YOU WOULDN'T BE SEEING HOME AN UGLY GIRL LIKE MY MANAGER, WOULD YOU?

NO MATTER WHAT THE CHANCE ...

BUT ...

THE GIRL WAS MINAMI-CHAN, SO YOU SAW HER HOME, RIGHT?

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING.

I WON-DER...

WELL ...

I'M NOT ASKING.

OOOF

MY THANKS FOR HAVING YOU SEE ME HOME

HERE YOU GO

IT'S ALL RIGHT. IT'S NOT POISONED.

RIGHT?

WHUMP

'CAUSE DEFEATING NITTA-KUN HAS BEEN LEFT TO TATCHAN...

SPLAT

I'LL DEFINITELY RESPOND TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS.

MINAMI-CHAN, GIVE THAT ROLE TO NISHIMURA HERE.

THAT'S ASKING TOO MUCH.

AH.. I SEE

I CAME TO SEE MINAMI-CHAN.

DUMMY, THERE'S NO WAY I'D FOLLOW YOU.

HE FOLLOWED ME ON HIS OWN.

BEATS ME.

WHY ARE YOU WITH NISHIMURA-KUN?

NITTA, COULD I HAVE A ...

RATTLE

THAT'S RIGHT.

THIS SPAGHETTI... DID YOU MAKE IT, MINAMI-CHAN?

...

HM?

IF I HAD BEEN SEEN BY NITTA-KUN'S FANS, I MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED, HM?

THAT'S TRUE.

ISN'T THAT DANGER-OUS?

TO RIDE DOUBLE ON A BIKE...

THANKS FOR THE TREAT.

SAME HERE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MINAMI-CHAN'S FANS...

AREN'T JUST MEEK GUYS, EITHER!

WAH!

WELL, WELL

SFX: <VROOM>

SEE YOU

SO, UESUGI-KUN

YEAH.

WHO KNOWS.

I WONDER IF HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND?

NITTA-KUN IS POPULAR, ISN'T HE?

BLEAH

AND ONE CAN'T VERY WELL GO OUT WITH A GIRL, FREE FROM CARE.

THE PUBLIC EYE NEVER RESTS ...

IF IT COMES TO THAT, SHE'S WITH A SHOWBIZ GUY, HM?

THAT WOULD BE TOUGH.

SERVES HIM RIGHT!

HA HA!

I'M SURE THAT'S IT!

THAT'S RIGHT

WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE PUBLIC EYE ...

HOW ABOUT WE GO SEE A MOVIE TOGETHER NEXT TIME?

HUH?

IT'S THE SAME FOR YOU TOO, RIGHT, MINAMI-CHAN?

I'M WORKING ON BOTH THE RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS TEAM AND AS MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM.

AH, BUT, Y'SEE...

HUH?

LET'S MEET AT YOUR CONVEN-IENCE...

IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE A BREATHER.

RIGHT?

YOU CAN SPARE A COUPLE HOURS, CAN'T YOU?

TIME ISN'T SOMETHING I CAN EASILY..

AH...

I SEE ...

THEN, I'LL CALL YOU NOW AND THEN ...

NOW AND THEN?

I'M NOT IN THE COFFEE SHOP VERY .

AH, BUT ...

MAYBE I CAN PHONE YOU HERE

HERE IS...

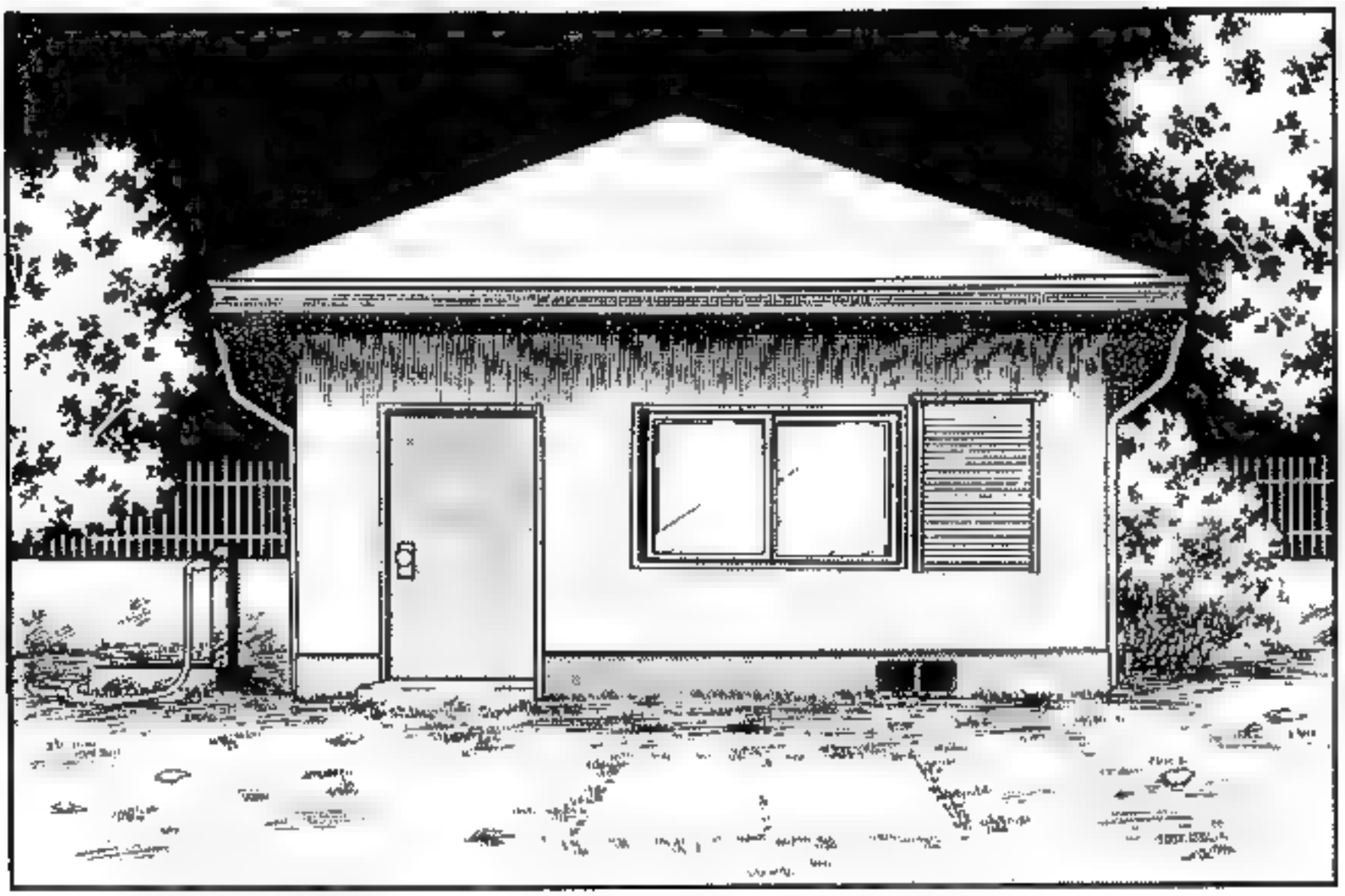
AH, THAT'S OKAY.

THEN, TELL ME THE NUMBER OF THE PHONE IN YOUR ROOM, PLEASE.

タッチ11

AWNING: <MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP>

SIGN: <PUNCH>



SO ...

AND ...

SFX: <BONK>

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OWWWW

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

HM?

EVEN THOUGH I WAS IN A JAM, YOU WERE PRETENDING NOT TO NOTICE...

WHAT'S WITH YOU?

YOU STARED OUT THE WINDOW THE WHOLE TIME ...

HE'S PRETTY PERSISTENT, HM...

YEAH.

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NATU-RALLY ...

IT WOULD DEVELOP ...

INTO HIM SAYING...

SUCH AS, IF I SAY SOMETHING TO NISHIMURA BACK THERE ...

I WAS QUIETLY THINKING THINGS LIKE THAT ...

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD PRE-TEND NOT TO NOTICE.

ABOUT WHAT?

I WAS THINK-ING.

"AND JUST WHAT ARE YOU TO MINAMI!?"

QUIETLY LIKE THAT?

I WAS QUIETLY THINKING THINGS LIKE THAT ...

Touch Volume 11 / END

TOUCH タッチ 11

Shonen Sunday Comics

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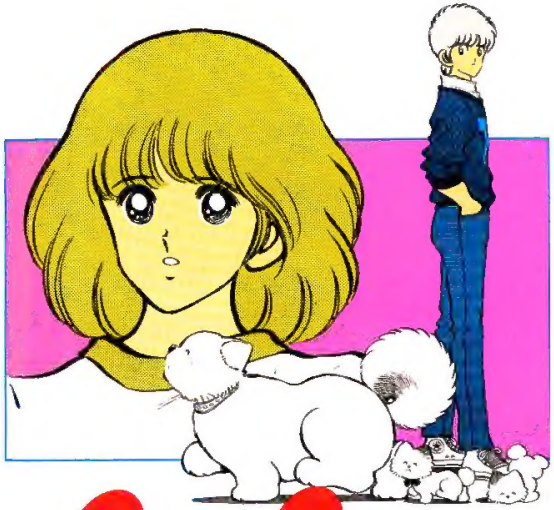

タッチ

TOUCH

★あの達也が、走った。ヒットを放ち、塁に出た達也が
★盗塁を…やる気のない、とりあえずエースの達也が、
★はじめてみせた"やる気"。そして敗れた時、達也が口
★にした"くやしい!!"。ガンバレ達也、南のために…!!

雑誌 45021—31

ISBN4-09-121131-3 C0279 ¥360E